



*Misión Permanente del Paraguay
ante las Naciones Unidas*



*Permanent Mission of the Republic
of Poland to the United Nations*

9 May 2008

Excellency,

In our capacity as co-chairs, we are pleased to inform you that the next meeting of the ad hoc working group on revitalization of the General Assembly, open to all Member States, will be held on May 30, 2008 from 10:00 am till 1 pm, and from 3 pm till 6 pm., in Conference Room 4.


According to the mandate provided for in the GA resolution 61/292 and the wish by the Member States expressed during the first meeting of the ad hoc working group on 21 February 2008, the purpose of the forthcoming meeting will be to evaluate and assess the status of implementation of relevant resolutions on revitalization.

Following our first meeting, we prepared an inventory/chart of all relevant provisions on revitalization starting from the fifty-first session of the General Assembly. The chart, along with the explanatory note will be circulated to all missions via email and posted on the web site of the President of the General Assembly (<http://www.un.org/ga/president/62/issues/rga.shtml>). To facilitate the assessment of relevant provisions, the chart defines three general clusters. Therefore, we suggest that our discussion could follow the structure of the chart.

We encourage all the delegations to actively participate in the meeting.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.


Ambassador Eladio LOIZAGA
Permanent Representative of Paraguay


Ambassador Andrzej TOWPIK
Permanent Representative of Poland

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

Explanatory note by co-chairs

1. In order to fulfill the mandate formulated in the UNGA resolution, 61/292, which i.a. request for “evaluation and assessment of the status of implementation of relevant resolutions”, co-chairs - after consultations with Member States - decided to prepare an **inventory/chart of UNGA resolutions on revitalization**.
2. Our intention was to catalog all relevant provisions on revitalization with the purpose to identify areas where progress is needed as well as areas where practical results can be achieved during the sixty-second session. In practical terms, the chart shall provide evidence of actual progress and signaling remaining obstacles and opportunities for further progress. In other words, it might help Member States to identify specific actions that can improve the process of revitalization, and thus enhance the authority and effectiveness of the United Nations General Assembly.
3. In terms of scope, the inventory focuses on the provisions contained in UN resolutions on revitalization, starting from the **fifty-first session** of the UNGA.
4. The chart contains mostly **operative provisions** which request concrete and specific actions. In our view, such an approach would make the discussion more practice-and result-oriented. In this context, following type of provisions have been omitted:
 - declaratory provisions reaffirming certain principles;
 - provisions which are no more relevant for the process of revitalization (establishing working group, deferring issues to the next session etc.);
 - provisions that have been overtaken by an event (e.g. by other resolutions, new Rules of Procedures etc.).
5. While analyzing different resolutions on revitalization, we realized that there are many provisions which are repeated in more than one resolution. Consequently, to avoid duplications, the chart contains only one provision and includes the reference to other resolutions where similar provision is to find.
6. In order to better organize our discussions and make our findings more understandable and useful, we divided all the relevant provisions into **three main clusters** (reflecting to some extent the structure of the most recent resolutions on revitalization). Furthermore, the three main clusters have been subdivided into different **thematic areas**. Each provision included in the chart has been given a number. The chart also indicates the **entity responsible for the implementation** of the provision as well as comments on the **status of implementation**. Where possible, the chart characterizes the nature of the provision, indicating whether it is one-time action or provision to be implemented on the ongoing basis.
7. Co-chairs obtained information on the status of implementation during several meetings with entities responsible for the implementation. Additionally, information provided in the reports on the revitalization by the Secretary-General has also been used.
8. The chart does not have a definite character and may be amended at any time by Member States if necessary. Furthermore, it is not intended to and does not constitute any legal effect. It should solely serve as a tool to facilitate our discussion and to indicate where the implementation or additional clarification is still needed.

Abbreviations used in the chart: MS-Member States, GA-General Assembly, SC-Security Council, GC-General Committee, MC-Main Committees, SG-Secretary-General

Cluster I (working methods, documentation, agenda, etc.)

No.	Document reference	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
A. General provisions related to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly				
1.	A/RES/60/286-24 Also in: A/RES/59/313-14	Requests the Secretary-General to issue the rules of procedure of the General Assembly in a consolidated version in all official languages, in print and online.	SG	One-time action. The consolidated version of the rules of procedure is set out in document A/520/Rev.16 and Corr.1, both in print and online (A/62/608, p.15).
2.	A/RES/60/286-24	Requests the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat to make precedents and past practice available in the public domain with respect to rules and practices of the intergovernmental bodies of the Organization;	SG/OLA	One-time action. The Office of Legal Affairs has concluded the process of compiling precedents and past practice with respect to the rules and practices of the intergovernmental bodies of the Organization. That information will be made available in the public domain shortly (A/62/608).
B. Provisions related to the organization of meetings: Plenary, General Committee, Main Committees				
3.	A/RES/59/313-11	Strongly urges all officers presiding over meetings of the General Assembly to start such meetings on time .	SG/DGACM	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis by the Secretariat. Periodically, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provides presiding officers with statistics on the financial impact of the implementation of this provision. (A/61/483 p.19 and A/62/608)
4.	A/RES/58/316-1 (b)	With effect from the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, the meetings of the plenary Assembly shall normally be held on Mondays and Thursdays .	SG/DGACM	As of the fifty-ninth session, plenary meetings of the Assembly are scheduled and held on Mondays and Thursdays to the extent possible. (A/61/483, p. 13 and A/62/608)
5.	A/RES/58/126-B.2	The work of the Main Committees of the General Assembly might benefit if it is scheduled over two substantive periods during the session. (...) With a view to enabling the Assembly to consider changes in this regard, with effect from the sixtieth session of the Assembly, the Secretary-General is requested to present, by 1 February 2004, various options for consideration by the General Committee, taking into account the requirements of the relevant intergovernmental bodies and the different locations of their meetings and the budget cycle. (...)	SG	One-time action. In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Options for the rescheduling of the Main Committees of the General Assembly" (A/58/CRP.3), which the Assembly considered at its fifty-eighth session. (A.61/483 p.12 and A/62/608 p.7)

C. Provisions related to the General Debate				
6.	A/RES/57/301-2 Also in: A/RES/57/301-3 A/RES/51/241-19 A/RES/51/241-20 (a)	Also decides that the general debate in the General Assembly shall open on the Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly and shall be held without interruption over a period of nine working days;	SG/DGACM	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. Included in Annex VIII of the Rules of Procedure. The general debate opens on the Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly and is being held without interruption over a period of nine working days.
7.	A/RES/51/241-20 (b)-(e)	The preparation of the list of speakers for the general debate shall be based on the following principles: (b) Member States shall be invited to indicate three preferences for speaking times ; (c) Member States wishing to organize or participate in group meetings during the general debate period shall be encouraged to coordinate their responses to the request for preferences and to indicate this transparently in their responses; (d) The Secretariat shall be requested to prepare a list of speakers based on existing traditions and expressions of preference to best accommodate Members' needs; (e) The list of speakers for each day shall be completed and no speakers will be rolled over to the next day, notwithstanding the implications for hours of work.	SG/DGACM	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis by the Secretariat. The preparation of the list is based on the expressions of preference, traditions and internal criteria, e.g. written request by a MS, level of the representation, previous speaker slot, gender balance, geographical diversity etc.
D. Provisions related to the conduct of business: Time Limits on Speeches				
8.	A/RES/59/313-10	Decides that time limits on speeches in the plenary Assembly and in the Main Committees shall be applied in accordance with rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly; <i>Rule 72 reads: The General Assembly may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on any question. Before a decision is taken, two representatives may speak in favour of, and two against, a proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a representative exceeds his allotted time, the President shall call him to order without delay.</i> <i>Rule 114 reads: The committee may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on any question. Before a decision is taken, two representatives may speak in favour of, and two against, a</i>	MS/SG/PGA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis by the Secretariat, PGA and MS bearing in mind the sovereign right of each MS to express its national position.

		<i>proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a representative exceeds his allotted time, the Chairman shall call him to order without delay.</i>		
9.	A/RES/51/241-22	Outside the general debate there shall be a fifteen-minute time limit in plenary meetings and in the Main Committees.	MS	Ongoing provision. Provision to be applied by MS bearing in mind the sovereign right of each MS to express its national position.
10.	A/RES/59/313-13	Invites Member States that are aligned with statements already made by the chair of a group of Member States, where possible, to focus additional interventions that they make in their national capacity on points that have not already been adequately addressed in the statements of the group in question, bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position;	MS	Provision to be implemented by MS bearing in mind the sovereign right of each MS to express its national position.
E. Provisions related to the modern technologies				
11.	A/RES/60/286-28 Also in: A/RES/59/313-15 A/RES/55/285-24 (a)	Requests an update on its recommendation, in paragraph 15 of its resolution 59/313, regarding consideration of the use of optical scanners as a means of expediting the counting of votes cast through secret ballots during elections, taking due account of the security requirements in this regard and the credibility, reliability and confidentiality of such means, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the modalities thereof to the General Assembly;	SG	One –time action. Several options, taking into account the security requirements and the credibility, reliability and confidentiality of such means, have now been examined and have been made available to Member States in the form of a paper on revitalization which was prepared by the Secretariat and submitted to the Member States by the co-chairs in the course of the sixty-first session. The proposals contained therein are currently under consideration. (A/62/608, p. 15). Action by MS required.
12.	A/RES/55/285-24 (b-c)	Taking into account the general support in this regard, the Secretary-General is requested to submit proposals to the General Assembly for its consideration: (b) Wiring of the main conference rooms at Headquarters to provide members of delegations and the Secretariat with access to the Official Document System and other databases of the Organization, as well as to the Internet , together with electronic access to texts of statements and reports and, in the case of reports, simultaneous access to texts in all official languages; (c) Other areas of the work of the Assembly in which the use of modern technology and information technology would contribute to enhancing efficiency in its working methods.	SG	(b) The Chief Information Technology Officer (CITO) will coordinate with the member states their requirements of connectivity. (c) Managing knowledge of the Organization, by way of an enterprise content management (ECM) system has been proposed by the SG. (A/62/510 p. 19 - 22).
13.	A/RES/51/241-45	The Secretary-General is requested to pursue an information technology plan with a range of options to provide all permanent missions to the United Nations and the wider public with on-line access to documents and	SG	Web Content Management (WCM) is a component of the ECM platform that facilitates knowledge-sharing within the Secretariat and with other international organizations, non-governmental organizations and the

		relevant United Nations information. Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, hard copies of documents shall continue to be distributed to permanent missions in accordance with their needs. While welcoming the progress made by the Ad hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics of the Economic and Social Council, further efforts in this direction could be pursued within a specified time-frame to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems. All countries, in particular developing countries, shall be assisted in making full use of this potential access. Adequate provision should be made for training delegates. Facilities for such access by delegations within the United Nations premises shall also be expanded as much as possible. Availability of information in this manner should be ensured in all official languages of the United Nations.		public at large through its capabilities for the creation and dissemination of content on internal and external websites, WCM: Provides a simple, browser-based capacity to create content, it empowers staff with minimal ICT skills to create and manage dynamic content of both internal and external websites; Standardizes web content authoring, the ECM system can easily enforce Secretariat standards for visual content, such as user interfaces, accessibility requirements, and facilitate the branding of internal and external websites. (A/62/510 p. 20)
14.	A/RES/51/241-46	The Secretary-General is encouraged to include information on the impact of technological improvements in his report on the implementation of mandates, by means of comparing outputs with objectives.	SG	<i>Vide comments for provisions E.12 and E.13 in this chart.</i>
F. Provisions related to documentation: resolutions				
15.	A/RES/60/286-23 Also in: A/RES/58/126-B.5	Encourages Member States to submit draft resolutions in a more concise , focused and action oriented form.	MS	Provision to be implemented by MS bearing in mind the sovereign right of Member States to submit proposals in the context of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly
G. Provisions related to documentation: consolidation of reports				
16.	A/RES/60/286-29 Also in: A/RES/59/313-16 A/RES/58/313-6 (c) A/RES/58/126-B.7	Requests the Secretary-General to implement further the measures set out in paragraph 20 of resolution 57/300 of 20 December 2002 on the consolidation of reports and in paragraph 6 of the annex to resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004 on documentation;	SG	Since the adoption of this resolution, a number of reports, where appropriate, have been consolidated. (A/61/483 p.21 and A/62/608)
17.	A/RES/58/316-6 Also in: A/RES/59/313-16	In the light of its decision in section B, paragraph 7, of the annex to resolution 58/126 that the heavy volume of documentation that is submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration should be reduced, the Secretary-General is requested: (a) To update the note by the Secretariat, entitled “Control and limitation of documentation”, (A/58/CRP.7.) in the	SG	In request to the provision formulated in resolution 57/300, the Secretariat has issued a note entitled “Control and limitation of documentation” (A/58/CRP.7). The note has not been updated lacking the endorsement by MS.

		light of the provisions of the present resolution; (b) To submit the updated version of the note by the Secretariat for the consideration of the General Committee , meeting in open-ended consultations, so that it may make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.		
18.	A/RES/58/313-6 (c) Also in: A/RES/57/300-20	c) to take the necessary action to initiate the implementation of provisions of paragraph 20 of resolution 57/300, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to start, on a trial basis, a consultative process with the President of the General Assembly and the Chairmen of the Main Committees of the Assembly at the end of the main part of each session of the Assembly, with a view to consolidating reports on related subjects, if decided by the Main Committees	SG/PGA/MS	Consultations have not taken place, as there is no applicable decision by the Main Committees.
19.	A/RES/55/285-15 Also in: A/RES/51/241-32	Member States need to take concrete action to implement paragraph 32 of the annex to resolution 51/241, including by requesting more integrated reports. Para 32 reads as follows: The number of reports requested shall be rationalized where possible so as to permit more focused consideration of issues. All bodies shall exercise restraint in making proposals containing requests for new reports and should consider integrating, biennializing or triennializing the presentation of reports, bearing in mind paragraphs 6 and 7 of General Assembly resolution 50/206 C of 23 December 1995.	MS	Provision to be implemented by MS.
20.	A/RES/55/285-16	In preparing the annual memorandum concerning the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the secretariat of the Assembly, in consultation with the substantive departments of the Secretariat, should look for synergies and integration of reports	SG	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis by the Secretariat. The annual memorandum concerning the implementation of the resolutions contains a paragraph on the need for possible integration of reports.
H. Provisions related to the preparation and issuance of reports				
21.	A/RES/59/313-18 Also in: A/RES/49/221- B.6 (c)	Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that documentation and reports are issued well in advance , in keeping with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation simultaneously in all official languages, as set out in resolution 49/221 B of 23 December 1994 and in	SG	Ongoing provision. In response to this request, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has entered into a compact with the Secretary-General which provides for zero tolerance of late submission of documents. (A/61/483 and

		resolution 59/309 of 22 June 2005 on multilingualism;		<i>A/62/608</i>).
22.	A/RES/55/285-18	The Secretary-General is requested to make further suggestions as to how to speed up the preparation of reports and to rationalize the scheduling of meetings. The Secretary-General shall keep the President of the General Assembly and the General Committee informed on this issue on a regular basis throughout the sessions of the Assembly.	SG	The SG continues to make recommendations in his memoranda on organization of the GA, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (vide the most recent one: A/BUR/62/1)
23.	A/RES/55/285-17	Member States and entities of the United Nations system should make a serious effort to submit their replies and inputs to requests for information or views pursuant to resolutions of the General Assembly within the prescribed deadlines.	MS	Provision to be implemented by the MS.
24.	A/RES/59/313-17	Encourages Member States, when seeking additional information, to request that they be provided with the information either orally or, if in writing , in the form of information sheets, annexes, tables and the like, and encourages the wider use of this practice;	MS	Provision to be implemented by the MS.
I. Provisions related to the report of the SG on the Work of the Organization				
25.	A/RES/51/241-4	The introduction to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization should be in the nature of an executive summary highlighting main issues.	SG	Provision implemented by the Secretariat. The introduction to the report on the work of Organization is presented in a form of an executive summary highlighting the main issues.
26.	A/RES/51/241-5 Also reiterated in: <i>A/RES/55/285-13</i>	The main body of the report shall be comprehensive, informative and analytical in a way that will allow Member States to examine and assess, inter alia, through the debate on the report, the extent to which mandates given by the General Assembly have been fulfilled, as well as to set priorities in the context of the major political, economic and social, administrative and financial issues on its agenda.	SG	Provision implemented by the Secretariat on the ongoing basis.
27.	A/RES/51/241-6 Also reiterated in: <i>A/RES/55/285-13</i>	The Secretary-General shall incorporate a [new] forward-looking section in his report on the work of the Organization. It shall describe the specific goals for the Secretariat in the year ahead in the context of the work plan for the Organization in the coming year, taking into account the medium-term plan and the fact that the responsibility for establishing priorities rests with the Member States.	SG	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
28.	A/RES/51/241-9	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the	SG	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis by the

	Also reiterated in: <i>A/RES/55/285-13</i>	Organization shall, inter alia, contain an analytical and concise annex elaborating the costs by major programmes and activities of all bodies of the United Nations system, located both in and outside New York, according to their mandates, so as to improve Member States' overview of system-wide issues.		Secretariat.
29.	<i>A/RES/51/241-3</i>	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization should be available not later than thirty days prior to the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly in all official languages of the Organization so as to permit due consideration.	SG	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis by the Secretariat. During the 62 nd session the report has not been available within the deadline requested.
30.	<i>A/RES/55/285-14</i> Also in: <i>A/RES/51/241-7</i>	As regards implementation of paragraph 7 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly, after consideration by the Assembly of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, shall inform the Assembly of his assessment of the debate on the report in order for the Assembly to determine the need for further action.	PGA	According to the practice, the SG introduces his report at the beginning of the general debate. Consequently, the PGA presents his assessment in conclusion of the general debate. No additional assessment by the PGA is being provided after plenary meetings of the GA.
31.	<i>A/RES/51/241-7</i>	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization shall be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly immediately after the general debate.	SG/ MS (GA)	Provision implemented by the Secretariat on the ongoing basis. The report is considered in plenary meetings of the GA immediately after the general debate.
32.	<i>A/RES/51/241-8</i>	The General Assembly in plenary meeting may refer sections of the report for more detailed consideration by the Main Committees.	MS	Provision has never been applied in practice. However, it does not formulate any definite obligation to refer sections of the report for more detailed consideration by the Main Committees.
33.	<i>A/RES/51/241-10</i>	The Secretary-General is requested to introduce the report orally at an appropriate time under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization".	SG	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis by the SG. The Secretary General introduces his report orally under the agenda item "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization".
J. Provisions related to the agenda of the General Assembly				
34.	<i>A/RES/58/316-2 (a)</i>	(a) Pursuant to paragraph 4 of section B of the annex to resolution 58/126, the agenda of the General Assembly shall be organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005 (or in the strategic framework, as appropriate), with an additional heading for "Organizational, administrative and other matters" (...)	SG/MS(GA)	One-time action. As of the fifty-ninth session, the agenda of the General Assembly has been organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and, subsequently, in accordance with the strategic framework for the period 2006-2007, with an additional heading I, entitled "Organizational, administrative and other matters". (<i>A/61/483 p.13 and</i>

		(d) The provisions of the present section shall be reviewed by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session with a view to making further improvements, as appropriate.		A/62/608). During the sixty-first session no revision has been made by the GA.
35.	A/RES/58/316-4	Provisions related to allocation of agenda items. <i>For details vide: A/RES/58/316-4 (a)</i>	MS/SG	One-time action. The provisions of this paragraph are being implemented as of the fifty-ninth session and reflected in the agenda of each session. (A/62/608 A/RES/58/316-4)
36.	A/RES/55/285-3-9	Provisions related to clustering of agenda item concerning cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.	MS/SG	One-time action. Provision implemented as requested and reflected in the agenda of each session.
37.	A/RES/55/285-10,11	Provisions related to binnialization of agenda items. <i>For details vide: A/RES/55/285-10, 11</i>	MS/SG	One-time action. The provisions have been implemented as requested.
38.	A/RES/55/285-12	The following item shall be considered by the Third Committee , starting at the fifty-sixth session: “Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly”.	MS/SG	One-time action. The provisions have been implemented as requested.
39.	A/RES/58/126-B.4	With a view to better conceptualization of the content of the agenda of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the Assembly, for its consideration by 1 March 2004, an illustrative agenda of the Assembly, based on all the agenda items of the fifty-eighth session, organized around the priorities of the Organization for the period 2002–2005. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the illustrative agenda before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	SG/General Committee	One-time action. In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled “Illustrative agenda of the General Assembly” (A/58/CRP.4), which the Assembly considered at its fifty-eighth session” (A/61/483 p.12). <i>Vide also comments for provision J. 37 of the chart.</i>

40.	A/RES/58/126-B.5	(...) The President of the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in consultation with the Secretary-General, and following consultations with concerned Member States, is requested to make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items of the customary agenda of the Assembly for the consideration of the General Committee by 1 April 2004. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the proposals before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	PGA	One-time action. Subsequent to adoption of resolution A/RES/58/126, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled “Analysis of the agenda of the General Assembly” which was considered by the General Committee in open-ended informal consultations.
41.	A/RES/55/285-2 Also in: A/RES/51/241-24	The rationalization and streamlining of the agenda of the General Assembly should continue in order to enable the Assembly to focus its work on priority issues. Any change or suggestion concerning the agenda is made with the understanding that Member States may at any time propose any issue or item for the attention and consideration of the Assembly.	MS(GA)	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.
42.	A/RES/51/241-23	Bearing in mind rule 81 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the requirements for reopening debate on an agenda item which the Assembly had decided was completed will continue to be as at present and should be made clear to delegations through a statement from the President of the Assembly. A delegation wishing to reopen debate on an agenda item should send a written request to the President of the Assembly. The President will then undertake soundings to ascertain whether the request enjoys wide support. In the light of these soundings, the President shall announce in the Journal of the United Nations the date of the meeting of the Assembly to consider the question of reopening debate on the item, bearing in mind the requirements of rule 81.	MS (GA)/PGA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. <i>Also: Rule 81</i>
43.	A/RES/51/241-25	As a general rule, agenda items that could be considered in the Main Committees shall be referred to the Main Committees rather than the General Assembly in plenary meetings.	GA/SG	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.
K. Provisions related to practices and working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly				
44.	A/RES/60/286-25	Requests the Main Committees to continue their efforts to further rationalize their agendas and to improve their	Main Committees	In response to the request to the provision, some of the Main Committees explored the ways and possibilities

	Also in: <i>A/RES/59/313-8</i>	working methods, and invites the Bureaux of the Main Committees to enhance their cooperation , in conformity with the rules of procedure;		to enhance their cooperation. For instance, during the 60, 61 st sessions there have been joint meetings of the bureaux of the second and the third committees.
45.	<i>A/RES/60/286-26</i>	Decides, in that respect, to give due consideration to those recommendations of the Main Committees regarding the improvement of their working methods and the allocation of agenda items which require the approval of the General Assembly for their implementation;	MS(GA)	Provision to be implemented by MS.
46.	<i>A/RES/59/313-9</i>	Requests the Chairpersons of the Main Committees, at the end of their terms of office, to provide a short report on their observations and “ lessons learned ” to their immediate successors;	Main Committees	Provision is implemented by Main Committees on the ongoing basis. The observation and “lesson learned” are presented during the informal meetings between upcoming and incoming bureaux of the respective committees.
47.	<i>A/RES/58/316-3 (a),</i> Also in: <i>A/RES/59/313-7</i> <i>A/RES/51/241-26</i>	(a) Each Main Committee shall give specific attention to the rationalization of their future agendas by the biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items, and make recommendations to the plenary Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005;	Main Committees	In response to this request, The Main Committees at the 59 th and 60 th sessions made recommendations to the Assembly.
48.	<i>A/RES/58/316-3-(b)</i> Also in: <i>A/RES/51/241-30</i>	(b) Each Main Committee shall adopt a provisional programme of work at the end of the session for the next session to help them better to plan, prepare and organize and, in this context, review the related documentation requirements.	Main Committees	Implemented as of the fifty-ninth session (Information on the programme of work of the Fifth Committee is usually not available owing to the time frame of the Committee’s work). (<i>A/61/483 p.14 and A/62/608</i>)
49.	<i>A/RES/58/316-3-(c)</i>	(c) The practice of interactive debates and panel discussions shall be utilized or expanded, as appropriate, by all Main Committees so as to enhance informal, in depth discussions and to bring together experts from various fields without prejudicing the progress of the substantive work of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Provision is being implemented on the ongoing basis. The Committees make and extensive use of interactive debates and panels, e.g. panel meetings are of particular importance for the work of the Second Committee.
50.	<i>A/RES/58/316-3-(d)</i> Also in: <i>A/RES/51/241-53</i>	The practice of “ question time ” shall be introduced, as appropriate, in all Main Committees to enable a dynamic and candid exchange with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General and special rapporteurs;	Main Committees	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. As f the 59 th session, Main Committees introduced the “question time” which has a significant importance for their work.
51.	<i>A/RES/58/316-3-(e)</i>	The web sites of the Main Committees shall be enhanced and thereafter regularly updated and their content maintained by the secretariats of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. The websites of the Main Committees continue to be enhanced and regularly updated by the respective secretariats (<i>A/61/483 (p.15 and A/62/608)</i>).
52.	<i>A/RES/58/316-3-(f)</i>	The bureaux-elect of the Main Committees shall meet	Main Committees	Ongoing provision. Provision implemented as of the

		immediately after their election in order to discuss the organization and division of their work.		58 th session.
53.	A/RES/58/316-3-(g)	With a view to ensuring the continuity and the effective organization of their work, the incoming bureaux of the Main Committees shall, no later than two weeks after their election, meet with the outgoing bureaux in order to consult on and review issues relating to the efficient functioning of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Implemented by most of the Main Committees as of the 58 th session.
54.	A/RES/58/316-3-(h) Also in: <i>A/RES/51/241-30</i>	Prior to the opening of each session, informal briefings of each Main Committee shall be convened to discuss the organization of work .	Main Committees	Implemented as of the 59 th session.
55.	A/RES/58/126-B.8	The Main Committees of the General Assembly are bound by the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, although they have different practices and working methods. With a view to identifying best practices and working methods, and recognizing the ongoing efforts of the Main Committees to streamline their work, the Secretary-General, drawing on the experience of previous Chairmen of the Main Committees, is requested to submit a historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees for the consideration of the General Committee by 1 April 2004. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the note before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	SG	In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled “Historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees” (A/58/CRP.5), which was considered by the General Committee in open-ended informal consultations.” (<i>A/61/483 p. 13 and A/62/608</i>)
56.	A/RES/51/241-51	There shall be a more detailed and structured examination in the Main Committees of the relevant reports of the Board of Auditors, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Office of Internal Oversight Services in relation to the substantive work of these Committees.	Main Committees	The reports are examined in the Main Committees on an ad hoc basis, if necessary.
57.	A/RES/51/241-31	The Main Committees shall meet in substantive session only after the end of the general debate .	Main Committees	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.
58.	A/RES/51/241-36	The First Committee and the Fourth Committee shall not meet simultaneously and may consider meeting in a sequential manner during the regular session of the General Assembly. This arrangement shall not apply if it affects their respective identities, programmes of work and effective consideration of their agendas.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. The secretaries of the First and Fourth Committee undertake consultation with the purpose of avoiding simultaneous meetings.

L. Provisions related to the General Committee				
59.	A/RES/60/286-27 Also in: A/RES/58/316-5 (b)	Reiterates its call for the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. <i>Rule 42 reads: The General Committee shall meet periodically throughout each session to review the progress of the General Assembly and its committees and to make recommendations for furthering such progress. It shall also meet at such other times as the President deems necessary or upon the request of any other of its members”</i>	General Committee	Since the adoption of the resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, the General Committee met throughout the session of the General Assembly.
60.	A/RES/51/241-33	The General Committee shall use its authority and competence, taking into account rule 43 of the rules of procedure, by allowing Member States that are not represented on the General Committee to participate in its discussions. The process of decision-making will continue to be as at present. <i>Rule 43 reads: A member of the General Assembly which has no representative on the General Committee and which has requested the inclusion of an item in the agenda shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the General Committee at which its request is discussed and may participate, without vote, in the discussion of that item.</i>	General Committee	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.
61.	A/RES/58/316-5 (a)	The work of the General Committee shall be carried out in accordance with section VI of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;	General Committee	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.
62.	A/RES/58/316-5 (b)	The General Committee shall continue to meet throughout the session and to play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work.	General Committee	Since the adoption of the resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, the General Committee met throughout the session of the General Assembly and played its leading role in advising the Assembly in the organization of its work.
63.	A/RES/58/316-5 (c)	To ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the General Committee shall meet regularly throughout the session with the bureaux of the Main Committees to review the progress of the work of the Main Committees and to make recommendations for furthering such progress;	General Committee	Since the adoption of the provision, the General Committee met throughout the sessions of the General Assembly to ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure. Main Committee Chairmen regularly briefed General Committees on the work of their Committees.
64.	A/RES/58/316-5 (d)	In July of each year, the General Committee shall conduct a review of the proposed programme of work for the	General Committee	In response to this request the Secretary-General has submitted reports at the 58 th , 59 th , 60 th and 61 st sessions

		forthcoming session of the General Assembly, on the basis of a report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, and submit recommendations on the matter to the forthcoming Assembly. The report of the Secretary-General shall include information on the status of documentation to be issued during the forthcoming session;		of the General Assembly, including the requested information on the status of documentation (<i>vide</i> : A/58/864, A/59/860, A/60/971, A/61/1015 and their respective addenda).
65.	A/RES/58/316-5 (e)	The General Committee, meeting in open-ended consultations, shall continue to consider the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items of the customary agenda of the General Assembly and make recommendations thereon to the Assembly during its fifty-ninth session;	General Committee	Since the adoption of the provision the General Committee has made no recommendations to the General Assembly on the biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of its items of the Assembly's customary agenda.
66.	A/RES/58/316-5 (f)	On the basis of proposals from the President of the General Assembly, and in the light of the positive experience during the fifty-eighth session, the General Committee shall be encouraged, as appropriate, to continue to schedule informal briefings on topical issues ;	General Committee	At the 58 th and 59 th sessions, the General Committee held a number of informal briefings on topical issues. Due to the rising number of thematic debates the practice of informal briefings in the GC has been limited to avoid duplications.
67.	A/RES/58/316-5 (g)	At the beginning of each session, the General Committee, following recommendations from the President of the General Assembly, shall recommend to the Assembly a programme of, and format for, interactive debates on the items on its agenda;	General Committee	Since the adoption of the provision the General Committee has made no recommendations to the General Assembly on a programme of interactive debates on the items on its agenda.
68.	A/RES/58/316-5 (h)	The General Committee shall continue to consider ways and means to further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness in all aspects, and make recommendations on the matter to the General Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005.	General Committee	The General Committee continues to consider ways and means of improving its working methods. No recommendation has been made in that regard since the adoption of this provision.
69.	A/RES/58/126-B.1	The General Committee shall meet throughout the session and further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness. It will play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work. In this connection, the Assembly will also consider proposals to reform the General Committee.	General Committee	The General Assembly at its 58 th session on 1 July 2004, adopted resolution A/ RES/58/316, by which inter alia decided on a number of measures with regard to the reform of the General Committee.
70.	A/RES/55/285-20	In order to enhance the capacity of the General Committee to assist the President of the General Assembly in the conduct of the business of the Assembly and to improve continuity between its different sessions, at the outset of each session, each Vice-President of the Assembly shall	General Committee	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.

		designate a liaison person for the duration of the session. This designation may be made informally, without any amendment to rule 39 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, by means of a letter to its President.		
71.	A/RES/51/241-34	The General Committee may, each year, prior to the closure of the session, prepare suggestions based on its experience for the consideration of the incoming General Committee.	General Committee	Suggestions have been made on the ongoing basis during the informal meetings between upcoming and incoming general Committee.
72.	A/RES/51/241-35	The General Committee is requested to consider and recommend to the General Assembly methods and procedures for streamlining and rationalizing the Committee's work . The General Committee shall, in this context, in relation to each agenda item proposed, consider its rejection or its inclusion in the provisional agenda, taking into account previous recommendations of the General Committee and previous relevant decisions of the Assembly.	General Committee	Provisions to be implemented by GC.

Cluster II (Selection of the Secretary-General)

No.	Document reference	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments:
A. General provisions related to the selection of the Secretary – General				
1.	A/RES/60/286-17 Also in: <i>A/RES/51/241-57</i>	Recalls Article 97 of the Charter, as well as the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 11(I) of 24 January 1946 and 51/241, as relevant to the role of the Assembly in appointing the Secretary-General, upon the recommendation of the Security Council;	N/A	No specific action.
2.	A/RES/60/286-22	Emphasizes the importance of candidates for the post of Secretary-General possessing and displaying, inter alia, commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, extensive leadership, and administrative and diplomatic experience;	N/A	No specific action.
B. Provisions related to the selection process				
3.	A/RES/60/286-18 Also in: <i>A/RES/51/241-56</i> <i>A/RES/51/241-59</i>	Emphasizes, bearing in mind the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, the need for the process of selection of the Secretary-General to be inclusive of all Member States and made more transparent and that, in the course of the identification and appointment of the best candidate for the post of Secretary-General, due regard should be given to regional rotation and gender equality, and invites the Security Council to regularly update the General Assembly on the steps it has taken in this regard;	MS (GA/SC)	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.
4.	A/RES/60/286-19 Also in: <i>A/RES/51/241-60</i>	Encourages, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the President of the General Assembly to consult with Member States to identify potential candidates endorsed by a Member State and, upon informing all Member States of the results, to forward those results to the Security Council;	MS, PGA	No consultations upon the appointment of a new SG have taken place in 2006. Provision to be implemented every 5 years.
5.	A/RES/60/286-20	Also encourages formal presentation of candidatures for the position of Secretary-General in a manner that allows sufficient time for interaction with Member States, and requests candidates to present their views to all States members of the General Assembly;	MS	Presentation of candidature is being made in a form of letters to the SC. Since the adoption of that provision, no formal meetings with the candidates in the GA have taken place.

C. Provisions related to the appointment and duration of the term				
6.	A/RES/60/286-21 Also in: <i>A/RES/51/241-61</i>	Recalls paragraph 61 of its resolution 51/241, in which it is stated that, in order to ensure a smooth and efficient transition, the Secretary-General should be appointed as early as possible , preferably no later than one month before the date on which the term of the incumbent expires.	GA, SC	The provision is being implementing to the extent possible.
7.	A/RES/51/241-58	The duration of the term or terms of appointment, including the option of a single term, shall be considered before the appointment of the next Secretary-General.	MS	MS decide on the duration of the term on the case-by case basis based on recommendation by the SC.

Cluster III (Role and authority of the General Assembly)

No.	Document reference	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
A. General provisions related to the role and authority of the GA				
1.	A/RES/60/286-1 Also in: A/RES/59/313-2 (b)	Reaffirms the role and the authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, as stipulated in Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter;	MS	Ongoing provision. The General Assembly has a number of items on its agenda that fall under this provision. Since the adoption of this provision, the Tenth Emergency Special session was convened on 15 December 2006 for its 30-31 st Plenary meetings.
B. Provisions related to the election of President of the General Assembly				
2.	A/RES/58/126-B.9	In accordance with paragraph 2 (a) and (c) of resolution 56/509, the General Assembly elects the President of the Assembly, the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly, and the Chairmen of the Main Committees at least three months before the opening of the session in which they will serve. In order to foster better advance planning and preparation of the work of the Main Committees, the full Bureaux of the Main Committees shall similarly be elected three months in advance of the next session.	MS	Ongoing provision. Provision implemented as of the 58 th session. This provision as well as Rules 30 and 99 a) apply to the election of the PGA and Vice-Presidents.
C. Provisions related to the competencies of the PGA				
3.	A/RES/58/126-7	In June of each year, the President-elect of the General Assembly, after taking into account the views provided by Member States and following consultations with the incumbent President and the Secretary-General, will suggest an issue , or issues, of global concern upon which Member States will be invited to comment during the general debate at the forthcoming session of the Assembly. The views provided by Member States should also be summarized and circulated to Member States. Such suggestions regarding the issue(s) for comment will be without prejudice to the sovereign right of Member States to solely and entirely determine the content of their general	PGA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. The President of the 62 nd session of the General Assembly suggested the theme: responding to the climate change. The views provided by MS were summarized in PGA presentation to all regional groups in September 2007.

		debate statements.		
D. Provisions related to the financial, logistic and technical support for the PGA				
4.	A/RES/59/313-3 (b)	Decides to strengthen the role and leadership of the President of the General Assembly by: (b) Augmenting the resources available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly from within existing resources, subject to consideration by the Assembly of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007, to provide for two further additional posts at management and senior levels to be filled on an annual basis following consultations with the incoming President, beginning at the sixtieth session of the Assembly;	SG	Provision implemented as of the sixtieth session (A/61/483, p.18).
5.	A/RES/58/126-10	The resources available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in personnel and other support shall be augmented from within existing resources, bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 22 of the annex to resolution 55/285. Five additional posts shall be made available to supplement current support, of which three shall be filled on an annual basis, following consultations with the incoming President, beginning at the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly.	SG	Provision implemented as of the fifty-ninth session (A/61/483 p.11 and A/62/608)
6.	A/RES/55/285-22 Also in: A/RES/51/241-44	Additional measures are required to implement paragraph 44 of the annex to resolution 51/241, in particular in the area of substantive support for the President of the General Assembly. Therefore, adequate support should be made available to the office of the President in the substantive areas of its work. To this end, the Secretary-General is requested to take appropriate measures and to submit proposals to the relevant committees for their consideration during the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly.	SG	The support for the PGA is being provided to the limited extent. Various technical, logistical, protocolar and financial questions need to be clarified.
7.	A/RES/59/313-3 (c)	Decides to strengthen the role and leadership of the President of the General Assembly by: (c) Making available to the President of the General Assembly adequate office and conference space with a view to enabling the President to carry out his/her functions in a manner commensurate with the dignity and stature of the Office;	SG	Beginning with the fifty-ninth session, transitional office space and other support have been provided to the President-elect.

8.	A/RES/60/286-11 Also in: <i>A/RES/58/126-11</i>	Requests the Secretary-General to continue to make the necessary arrangements for the provision of transitional office accommodation and other support to the President-elect of the General Assembly, in accordance with resolution 58/126 of 19 December 2003;	SG	Beginning with the fifty-ninth session, transitional office space and other support have been provided to the President-elect. (<i>A/61/483, p.11 and A/62/608 p. 6</i>)
9.	A/RES/59/313-3 (d)	Requesting the Secretary-General to ensure that the President of the President of the General Assembly is provided with proper protocol services at Headquarters and at other United Nations duty stations.	SG	Support by the Protocol Office to the Office of the President of the General Assembly has been further strengthened through closer coordination with the Office of the President where protocol services are necessary, including also the social events hosted by the President. (<i>A/61/483 p.18 and A/62/608</i>).
10.	A/RES/60/286-9	Requests the President of the General Assembly, at the end of his/her tenure, to provide an informal, short report on best practices and lessons learned to his/her successor;	PGA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis in a form of the informal meetings.
E. Provisions related to the annual report of the Security Council				
11.	A/RES/60/286-4 Also in: <i>A/RES/58/126-3</i>	Invites the Security Council to further its initiatives to improve the quality of its annual report to the General Assembly, mandated by Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Charter, in order to provide the Assembly with a substantive and analytical report;	SC	The report of the SC is being improved in a gradual manner. In the 90's the report has been changed due to changes of working methods of the SC. Since 2000, further changes have been introduced; inter alia the introductory part has been added. Since then, the SC is more focused on the introduction to the report. Last year, information on the special political missions has been added to the report. This year, for the first time, the report will be prepared on the basis of new guidelines according to the findings by the SC Working Group on Documentation. Furthermore, this year's report will include record of resolutions on which no agreement has been reached in the SC.
12.	A/RES/60/286-7 Also in: <i>A/RES/59/313-2 (d)</i> <i>A/RES/58/126-2</i>	Also invites the Security Council to submit periodically, in accordance with Articles 15 and 24 of the Charter, special subject-oriented reports to the General Assembly for its consideration on issues of current international concern;	MS (SC)	Since the adoption of the resolution A/RES/58/126 no special subject-oriented reports were formally submitted to the GA. The special subjects are to some extent covered by the monthly assessment by the Presidency of the Security Council.
13.	A/RES/59/313-2 (c) Also in: <i>A/RES/59/313-2 (f)</i>	To consider the annual reports as well as special reports of the Security Council, in accordance with Article 15, paragraph 1, and Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Charter, through substantive and interactive debates ;	GA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. The report of the SC is being considered through substantive and interactive debates.

14.	A/RES.51.241-11	The agenda item entitled "Report of the Security Council" shall continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.	GA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. The report of the Security Council is considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.
15.	A/RES.51.241-14	The monthly forecast of the programme of work of the Security Council shall be circulated for the information of members of the General Assembly.	SC	Implemented on the ongoing basis. MS are provided with the monthly forecast of the programme of work of the Security Council in hard copies. Furthermore, the programme of work is also uploaded on the website of the Security Council.
16.	A/RES/60/286-5 Also in: <i>A/RES/58/126-4</i> <i>A/RES.51.241-12</i>	In carrying out the assessment of the debate on the annual report of the Security Council called for in paragraph 12 of the annex to resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997, the President shall inform the General Assembly of his decision regarding the need for further consideration of the report of the Council, including in respect of the convening of informal consultations, on the need for, and content of, any action by the Assembly based on the debate, as well as on any matters to be brought to the attention of the Council;	PGA	To date, consideration of the report of the Security Council has been held in the plenary only.
17.	A/RES.51.241-12	The President of the General Assembly shall assess the debate on this item and consider the need for further consideration of the report of the Security Council.	PGA	Implemented on the ongoing basis. The PGA provides an opening remarks and closing assessment of the debate.
18.	A/RES.51.241-13	The agenda item shall not be closed but shall remain open to enable further discussion as necessary during the year, bearing in mind, inter alia, the submission of additional reports as and when necessary.	MS (GA)	During the 59 th session the agenda item remained open. During the 60 th , 61 st and 62 nd session the MS decided to close the agenda item.
F. Provisions related to the annual report of the ECOSOC				
19.	A/RES/60/286-8	Invites the Economic and Social Council to continue to prepare its report to the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, striving to make it more concise and action-oriented by highlighting the critical areas requiring action by the Assembly and, as appropriate, by making specific recommendations for consideration by the Member States;	MS (ECOSOC)	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.
20.	A/RES.51.241-15	The report of the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly shall be prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996. The report shall also contain an evaluation of the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, taking into account the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination.	MS (ECOSOC)	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.

G. Provisions related to the annual report of the ICJ				
21.	A/RES.51.241-16	The report of the International Court of Justice shall continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly. The Assembly shall continue to support the role of the International Court of Justice as the principal judicial organ of the Organization, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Assembly shall also continue to encourage the progressive development and codification of international law.	GA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. As of the 52 nd session the report continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the GA.
H. Provisions related to the Public Relations activities				
22.	A/RES/60/286-14	Requests the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in cooperation with countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the work of the General Assembly;	SG (DPI)	Ongoing provision. The Department of Public Information continues to implement its communications strategy to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly approved by the Assembly in its resolutions 59/126 B and 60/109 B..
23.	A/RES/60/286-16	Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to increase their public visibility , including through enhanced contacts with representatives of the media and civil society, thus promoting the activities of the Assembly, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the practice of providing to the Office of the President of the Assembly a Spokesperson for the President of the Assembly and an assistant to the Spokesperson;	PGA, SG	Ongoing provision. As of the sixtieth session, for example, the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairmen of the Main Committees, have periodically briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current sessions. (A/61/483 p.20 and A/62/608 p. 15). No assistant to the Spokesperson for the PGA is provided since January 2008.
24.	A/RES/58/126-8	The work and decisions of the General Assembly should be better publicized . Accordingly, the support provided by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat for these purposes should be intensified and strengthened. The Secretary-General is requested to present a plan to this end, within existing resources, to the next session of the Committee on Information, so that recommendations can be made to the Assembly.	SG (DPI)	One-time action. A plan was presented by the Secretary-General to the Committee on Information at its twenty-sixth session (see A/AC.198/2004/6; see also resolutions 59/126 B and 60/286, annex para. 14).” (A/61/483 p. 11 A/62/608)
25.	A/RES/60/286-15	Urges the Secretariat to continue its endeavors to raise the visibility of the General Assembly and, to that end, requests the rearrangement of items in the Journal of the United Nations so that listings of plenary meetings and other major events of the General Assembly may appear alongside those of the meetings of the Security Council;	SG	As of the sixty –first session the items in Journal of the United Nations have been rearranged. (A/61/483 and A/62/608)

I. Provisions related to the GA cooperation with the civil society and others				
26.	A/RES/60/286-12	Encourages enhanced interaction, as and where appropriate, with civil society , including non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, on relevant issues, (...)	GA	Ongoing provision. As of the sixtieth session, for example, the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairmen of the Main Committees, have periodically briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current sessions. (A/61/483 p.20 and A/62/608 p. 15).
27.	A/RES/60/286-13	Also encourages, where appropriate, continued cooperation between the General Assembly and national and regional parliaments , particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union;	GA	Provision has been implemented on the ongoing basis. Numerous meetings have been taken place between the PGA and visiting parliamentarians. The IPU also participates as an observer in debates of the GA.
J. Provisions related to the organization of work				
28.	A/RES/55/285-19 Also in: A/RES/51/241-28	In order to implement fully paragraph 28 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly is encouraged to make greater use of facilitators , where appropriate.	PGA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. During the sixty-second session the PGA has appointed 17 facilitators (e.g. Financing for Development; International Environmental Governance; Mandate Review; System-wide Coherence; GA Revitalization; SC Reform; HIV/AIDS, Commemorative High-level Plenary Meeting on Children; Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse).
29.	A/RES/51/241-27	The General Assembly is the highest political body with universal membership of the Organization. Consideration of agenda items directly in plenary meetings shall be reserved for urgent issues or issues of major political importance, bearing in mind paragraphs 1 and 2 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 48/264.	GA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis.
30.	A/RES/51/241-28	The President of the General Assembly, with a view to ensuring that there is a systematic and transparent process for participation by delegations in discussions on action to be taken on items considered directly in plenary meetings, shall assess the debate in plenary meetings (...).	PGA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. Usually, the PGA provides his assessment of the debates in plenary meetings whenever items considered are of particular importance or special interest to MS.
31.	A/RES/51/241-29	The Secretariat shall ensure, in consultation with the President, that priority is accorded to the availability of a meeting room and services to facilitate these consultations.	SG	Provision is being implemented on the ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
K. Provisions related to Interactive/Thematic Debates				
32.	A/RES/60/286-3 Also in:	Encourages the holding of thematic interactive debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community in the General Assembly, and invites the	MS (GA), PGA	Ongoing provision. During the sixty-second there have been 5 thematic debates (e.g. climate change; MDGs; management reform; human trafficking, human

	<i>A/RES/59/313-3 (a)</i> <i>A/RES/58/126-B.3</i>	President of the Assembly to propose themes for such interactive debates, in consultation with Member States;		security). During the sixty-first session, 5 thematic debates have been organized (MDGs; gender equality; civilizations; financing for development; climate change)
33.	<i>A/RES/59/313-12</i>	Encourages the holding of interactive debates with a view to contributing to intergovernmental decision-making;	MS (GA)	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. .
L. Provisions related to the cooperation between the main organs				
34.	<i>A/RES/60/286-2</i> Also in: <i>A/RES/58/126-6</i> <i>A/RES/55/285-21</i> <i>A/RES/51/241-43</i>	Urges the Presidents of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council to meet periodically to ensure increased cooperation and coordination of their work programmes in accordance with their respective responsibilities under the Charter; the President of the Assembly shall inform Member States about the outcome of those meetings on a regular basis;	PGA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. The President of the GA, SC and ECOSOC meet together periodically. No regular information has been presented to the MS about the outcome of those meetings.
35.	<i>A/RES/58/126-5</i>	The President of the General Assembly should continue to be briefed regularly by the President of the Security Council on the work of the Council. The President of the Assembly may wish to inform Member States about the substantive issues raised during these meetings.	PSC, PGA	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. The PGA and the PSC are meeting in monthly intervals.
36.	<i>A/RES/60/286-6</i> Also in: <i>A/RES/59/313-2 (e)</i>	Invites the Security Council to update the General Assembly on a regular basis on the steps it has taken.	MS (SC)	Provision implemented on the ongoing basis. The information on the steps taken by the SC is provided during the meetings with the PGA as well as included in the monthly assessment by the Presidency of the SC.
M. Provision related to the implementation and the follow-up of the resolutions				
37.	<i>A/RES/58/126-9</i>	Member States and the Secretariat should consider initiatives that might be taken for better monitoring of the follow-up of resolutions of the General Assembly, such as the provision of timely inputs for reports of the Secretary-General and giving effect to proposals that would advance the follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits.	MS, SG	Communications from the Secretary-General have been sent to Member States on an ongoing basis to ask for pertinent information. (<i>A/61/483 and A/62/608</i>)
38.	<i>A/RES/59/313-1</i>	Stresses the need to demonstrate political will to ensure the effective implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.	MS	Ongoing provision. Provision does not contain request for specific action.



*Misión Permanente del Paraguay
ante las Naciones Unidas*



*Permanent Mission of the Republic
of Poland to the United Nations*

12 June 2008

Excellency,

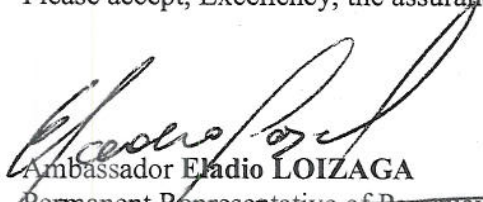
As discussed at our last meeting on 30 May, we are pleased to convene the next meetings of the ad-hoc working group on the revitalization of the General Assembly as follows:

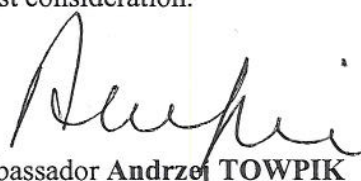
- a) 19 June (Thu.) 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. (to review provisions in Cluster I of the chart)
- b) 20 June (Fri.) 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. (to review provisions in Cluster II of the chart)
- c) 20 June (Fri.) 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. (to review provisions in Cluster III of the chart).

All meetings will be held in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, and we intend to request relevant Secretariat officials to be present to answer questions raised from Member States. Please be reminded that the chart has been sent to all Member States on 9 May, and is also available at the website of the President of the General Assembly at: http://www.un.org/ga/president/62/issues/resolutions/Revitalization_chart.pdf.

We encourage all the delegations to actively participate in the meetings.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.


Ambassador Eladio LOIZAGA
Permanent Representative of Paraguay


Ambassador Andrzej TOWPIK
Permanent Representative of Poland

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



*Misión Permanente del Paraguay
ante las Naciones Unidas*



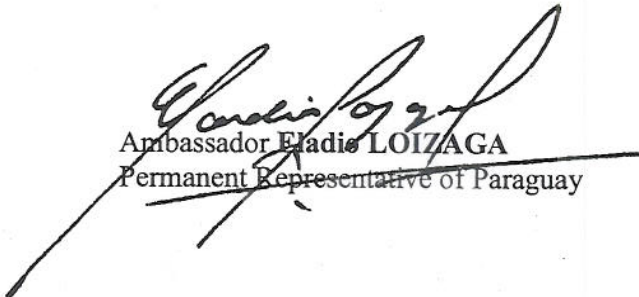
*Permanent Mission of the Republic
of Poland to the United Nations*

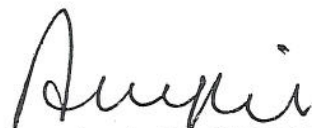
18 June 2008

Excellency,

Attached for your information, please find the document entitled: "GA paper ballots voting proposal", prepared by the Secretariat in May 2007. This paper is mentioned in number 11 of Cluster I of the chart that we sent to you on 9 May, and it is our hope that it will facilitate our discussion especially during the next meeting on 19 June.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.


Ambassador Eladio LOIZAGA
Permanent Representative of Paraguay


Ambassador Andrzej TOWPIK
Permanent Representative of Poland

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



GA paper ballots voting proposal

Version 1.5

United Nations

25 May 2007

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BALLOTING IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly, in the context of the revitalization of its work, recommended the consideration of the use of optical scanners as a means of expediting the counting of votes cast through secret ballots during elections, taking due account of the security requirements in this regard and the credibility, reliability and confidentiality of such means, and requested the Secretary-General to report on the modalities thereof to the General Assembly (see A/RES/59/313 of 12 September 2005, and 60/286 of 8 September 2006).
2. Most elections and appointments of the General Assembly are conducted during the main part of its session (September to December of any given year). Approximately six to eight elections are held during that period (See Annex I for a sample). Usually elections take between one and a few rounds of balloting to conclude. However, on rare occasions, such as the election of the non-permanent members of the Security Council or the election of the members of the Economic and Social Council held during the sixty-first regular session, balloting can go on for several consecutive days.

CURRENT PROCEDURES

3. Currently, voting in the General Assembly is conducted using paper ballots distributed to delegations before each round (See Annex II for a sample type of ballots). Although there may be differences depending on the nature of the election, most ballots consist of a number of blank lines corresponding to the number of vacancies in each region to be filled out by representatives with the names of the Member States of their choice. In the case of elections of individuals, such as judges of the court/tribunals, the ballot papers will carry the names in English of all eligible candidates for representatives to put in check marks. Pertinent information for each set of ballot papers is in all six official languages.
4. After ballot papers are duly distributed and filled out, several teams of tellers made up of representatives of Member States and Secretariat staff will collect all the ballots. When that is completed, the teams will retreat to a restricted area to begin the process of counting.
5. Between the collection of the ballots and the resumption of the plenary meeting for the announcement of the results and possible next round of balloting, the waiting time for delegates may take from 20 minutes to over an hour, depending on the number of candidates to be counted in each ballot (anywhere from one candidate to well above 30 candidates) and whether recounting is necessary.
6. During this period of time, the teams of tellers and the Secretariat carry out a sequence of procedural and operational steps. The process and the approximate time required for each step are detailed below:
 - Separating the ballots by regions (1-5 ballots x 192 delegates); counting and verifying the number of ballots collected (about 10 -20 minutes);
 - Registering, counting and verifying the number of votes for each candidate on each ballot (anywhere from 10 minutes to over an hour, depending on the number of candidates on each ballot paper to be registered. In some elections, there are well over 30 candidates);
 - Tallying the results as teams are finished (some 5-15 minutes);
 - Preparing the speaking notes of the President of the General Assembly for conclusion of the election or for the next round of balloting based on the results of the previous ballot and on the rules of procedure governing the next round of

- balloting as well as producing 15 copies for interpreters and press (about 10-30 minutes);
- If there is a subsequent round, preparing the ballot papers for the next round of balloting and producing them in adequate and verifiable number (about 15 to 20 minutes).
 - If necessary, translating the speaking notes for the President into a language other than English used by the President to preside the meeting (about 10-30 minutes, depending on the number of pages of notes).

The whole process, except for the preparation of the notes for the President of the General Assembly, is handled manually and under the watchful eyes and with the full participation of Member States acting as Tellers, as well as with the presence of Officers from the Office of Legal Affairs, on hand to help with any legal matters during the counting.

7. The complexity of the counting of the votes sometimes requires additional time after the initial counting. This is the case, for example, when the results of two candidates are too close to determine which one has won the election, or if the result of a particular candidate is one vote shy of the required majority. In these cases, the ballots are recounted until the Tellers are satisfied that the results are correct. Extra counting time is also needed when the handwriting of Member States' representatives is not clear enough to determine for which candidate (s)he is voting, when the writing is in a language that requires verification, or when the name of a candidate, that is the name of a country, is not written or spelled correctly so that it is not possible to determine for which country the vote is meant, which means that the Tellers have to consult and make a decision whether to count that vote or ballot.

9. Taking into consideration the many built-in confidence measures, the process so far is able to satisfy the criteria for security, credibility, reliability and confidentiality. However, that has also meant that Member States on occasion have had to wait for over an hour to receive the results of a voting session and to find out whether there will be subsequent balloting.

10. To comply with the General Assembly's request, DGACM and ITSD have explored various options for Member States' consideration and decision.

A. Optical scanning (OS) of paper ballots

General description

Under the OS solution ballots would be scanned; the results of the scanning would automatically feed into a database. This option can be repurposed for voting at other locations.

Limitations

Ballots CANNOT contain any handwritten information, but rather check boxes. This would allow for automatic extraction of the information from the ballots with a high degree of accuracy and rigorous validation ensuring that downstream processes run as smoothly as possible.

Changes to current procedures

Following are the changes to current procedures deriving from this option:

- (a) Information from the paper ballots is retrieved automatically;
- (b) Votes are counted automatically;
- (c) Results of the voting are displayed and/or printed automatically;
- (d) Ballot preparation for the second and subsequent rounds of voting can be fully or partially automated.

Security and other issues

- (a) Verifiable paper trail and security of voting systems requirements: ballot distribution and collection process remain unchanged, thus existing rules are not compromised; scanned images of the ballots might be archived to have an auditable backup;
- (b) Anonymity of the voter is preserved; there is no physical evidence of which candidate received whose vote.

Brief description of the new procedures

1. Initial preparation:
 - A set of templates for a paper ballot is prepared using MSWord with locked fields positions;
 - A set of templates is prepared in the data capturing application based on the MSWord templates;
 - Appropriate programming is done in order to properly handle downstream process at the DB level.
2. Voting
 - Template-based ballots are printed;
 - Ballots are distributed to delegations, filled-up and received;
 - Ballots are visually checked, put in stacks and fed into the scanner;
 - Voting results are available and either displayed on the overhead monitor or printed and distributed, if needed.
3. Skills required
 - Knowledge of MSWord micros;
 - Knowledge of a selected data capturing software for template preparation;
 - Knowledge of DB report creation.
4. Availability
 - If the scanner or a connected PC fails and so does the back-up – the voting goes on and results still can be counted manually.

Cost Estimate	Range	
	Low	High
License (for 300,000 scanned pages)	\$5,000	\$7,000
Hardware (3 computers, high-quality scanners with OCR, printers, other peripheral devices, etc)	\$32,000	\$42,000
Business analysis	\$21,000	\$36,000
Implementation	\$15,000	\$24,000
Application development	\$25,000	\$50,000
Training	\$6,000	\$12,000
Total Costs	\$104,000	\$171,000
Recurrent costs and maintenance - yearly	\$20,800	\$24,200

B. Electronic voting system (E-voting)

General description

Voters use wireless keypads to vote. Results are available right after voting. This option can be repurposed for voting at other locations.

Limitations

Since wireless technology is used, possible interferences are to be considered.

Changes to current procedures

This solution requires substantial changes to existing procedures and/or policies.

- a) Paper document has to be prepared and distributed to delegations before each round with a clear correlation between numbers to be punched on keypads and countries or individual names;
- (a) Keypads have to be distributed to each delegation;
- (b) Votes are counted automatically;
- (c) Results of the voting are displayed and/or printed automatically;
- (d) Document preparation for the second and subsequent rounds of voting may be fully or partially automated.

Security and other issues

- (a) Verifiable paper trail and security of voting systems: Voting process will change, so security issues will have to be addressed;
- (b) There will be no auditable backup, unless each keypad is equipped with a mini printer and printed receipts are collected at the end of the session for future verification purposes and/or paper ballots are used in conjunction with wireless devices to enable a means for audit/verification after the session or in the event of a challenge;
- (c) It is very difficult to scrutinize some of the most critical processes of the election, such as collection of ballots and counting of votes, because those processes will be conducted invisibly;
- (d) Delegations will have no means to confirm that their votes were recorded correctly, nor will they have any assurance of that their votes won't be changed later. They must simply accept the UN secretariat assurance that touching a button on a computer screen registers as a vote for the correct candidate.
- (e) Anonymity may be preserved so there is no physical evidence that proves which candidate received whose vote. For that purpose keypads can be distributed randomly. However, if anonymity is not required, keypad IDs may be used and stored with the voting results.

Brief description of the new procedures

1. Initial preparation:
 - A numbered list of candidates for nomination is printed;
 - Application is configured according to the requirements, so, for example, a voter can punch 5 different numbers corresponding to 5 selected candidates and then send this string to the base station by pressing the button "Submit";
2. Voting
 - List with candidates and wireless keypads are distributed to delegations;
 - Voters make their selections on the keypads and submit the data electronically;
 - Results are available practically instantly and either displayed on the overhead monitor or printed and distributed, if needed.
3. Skills required
 - (a) Knowledge of the proprietary software for system configuration before each round of voting;

- (b) Knowledge of MSOffice programming;
- (c) Knowledge of DB report creation.

4. Availability

If the system fails, paper ballots are used -- the voting goes on and results can still be counted manually.

Cost estimate Cost Category	Range	
	Low	High
Software	\$90,000	\$120,000
Hardware (base station, 3 computers, keypads w/mini printers, printers)	\$42,000	\$56,000
Business Analysis	\$34,000	\$46,000
Implementation	\$26,000	\$39,000
Software customization	\$30,000	\$60,000
Training (staff and delegates)	\$18,000	\$24,000
Total Costs	\$240,000	\$345,000
Recurrent costs and maintenance - yearly	\$40,800	53,600

C. Stationary electronic voting system

General description

The stationary electronic voting system is a hardwired solution with touch-screen displays available for each delegation. Delegations use touch screen displays to vote. Each voter casts his/her vote from the terminal assigned to the delegation; changing places doesn't affect the operability of the system. Access to the voting terminal is initiated by a "smart" card, which is to be inserted into a special slot at the terminal. The card number, name of the voter, different stages of the voting process, names of the candidates and results of the vote can all be displayed on the voting terminal. Results are available right after voting. It cannot be repurposed at other venues; however the terminals can be used for other purposes besides voting by displaying relevant information or allowing delegations to retrieve and display relevant documents or records.

Changes to current procedures

This solution requires substantial changes to current procedures.

- (a) Application is to be configured for voting, with proper information entered into the system (names, countries, processes, etc);
- (b) Each delegation has to register for voting by inserting a "smart" card into a special slot at the terminal;
- (c) Votes are counted automatically;
- (d) Results of the voting are available to the President in several seconds after closing of the voting session and may become available to the voters immediately upon approval;
- (e) Preparation of next ballots is automated.

Security and other issues

- (a) Voting process will change, so security issues will have to be addressed;
- (b) There will be no auditable backup available to the voters. However, the application may keep all the voting records for later verification, providing assurance that

votes were counted as cast. There is also a possibility to store information on who voted and how, however in this case anonymity can't be preserved;

- (c) Anonymity may be preserved at the application level; however, that will eliminate personalized voting records verification.

Brief description of the new procedures

1. Initial preparation

Application is prepared and configured according to the requirements for a voting session, including candidate names, countries, voting logic, etc;

2. Voting

Voters insert "smart" cards to register for the vote and activate the voting session on their terminal;

After the voting session is declared open voters make their selections on the touch screen and submit the data electronically within allocated time announced by the President;

After the closing of the vote, the results are displayed at the President's terminal and only after approval or proclamation of the results they are displayed at the voters terminals;

Immediately after that the system is ready for the next round of voting.

Skills required

Knowledge of the proprietary software for system configuration.

Availability

If the system fails, paper ballots should be used -- the voting goes on and results can still be counted manually.

Cost estimate Cost Category	Range	
	Low	High
Software	\$200,000	\$250,000
Hardware (master command station, 3 computers, 200 touch screen displays, 200 card readers, cards, 3 printers)	\$180,000	\$220,000
Hardwire GA Hall and replacement of desks	\$500,000	\$700,000
Business Analysis	\$64,000	\$92,000
Implementation	\$104,000	\$148,000
Training (staff and delegates)	\$24,000	\$30,000
Total Costs	\$1,072,000	\$1,440,000
Recurrent costs and maintenance - yearly	\$154,000	\$208,000

Conclusions

From the preceding analysis, the following conclusions can be drawn with regard to the three options outlined above:

- (a) Option A, the optical scanning solution responds to the General Assembly's mandate as outlined in resolutions 59/313 and 60/286. It is the least expensive of the three options described in the present paper. It is cheap to store and to deploy; it is also reliable and simple to train staff in it; however, there is no time reduction envisaged under this option;

(b) Option B, E-voting, is a fairly expensive solution. It may still require distribution of printed materials to delegations before each round and may pose difficulties with regard to security and anonymity of votes, among other issues; on the positive side, it would allow for considerable time reduction in the processing of ballots;

(c) Option C, the stationary electronic voting system, is a very expensive, but comprehensive, solution. At this stage, however, it can only be envisaged in the context of the implementation of the Capital Master Plan (CMP) since it requires a major investment, including rewiring of General Assembly Hall and flush mounting all necessary hardware. (*As of May 2007, renovation of the GA Hall is scheduled to begin in June 2009 and finish in June 2012.*) Appropriate resources should be allocated in the CMP budget.

Thus, it would appear that at the current stage the decision should be between implementation of option A or option B, while resources are earmarked for implementation of option C in the CMP. It might also be advisable to make provision for wiring of additional conference rooms.

If option B were chosen, ITSD could evaluate its feasibility in the UN environment by building a prototype to determine whether the available off-the-shelf technology can be adapted to cover the six official languages in the ballots, lengthy lists for nominations (up to 53 countries in one group) and some other factors. Building of a prototype for evaluation purposes will require the following additional resources to be provided:

Cost estimate Cost Category	Range	
	Low	High
Software (trial version)	\$9,000	\$12,000
Hardware (base station, 1 computer, 2 keypads w/mini printers, 1 printer)	\$22,000	\$44,000
Business Analysis	\$34,000	\$46,000
Implementation	\$14,000	\$28,000
Software customization	\$30,000	\$60,000
Project management	\$24,000	\$48,000
Total Costs	\$133,000	\$238,000

It should be noted that all the costs listed above will be leveraged in the full scale solution implementation if prototype is accepted.

Time required to build the prototype is three months after resources become available, after due processing of relevant PBI.

Annex I

SAMPLE LISTING OF ELECTIONS IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. ELECTIONS THAT MUST BE CONDUCTED BY SECRET BALLOT

A. Principal organs

Economic and Social Council
International Court of Justice
Security Council

B. Subsidiary and other organs

Human Rights Council
International Law Commission
International Tribunal for Rwanda
International Tribunal for Yugoslavia

2. ELECTIONS WHERE BALLOTING IS NOT REQUIRED IN THE CASE OF CLEAN SLATES

A. Subsidiary and others organs

Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development
Fund for Women
Committee for Programme and Coordination
Joint Inspection Unit (for the selection process only)
Peacebuilding Commission
United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations International Trade Law

B. Other elections

President of the General Assembly
Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly

Annex II

SAMPLES OF BALLOTS FOR ELECTIONS IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ورقة تصويت
BALLOT PAPER
БЮЛЛЕТЕНЬ ДЛЯ ГОЛОСОВАНИЯ



选票
BULLETIN DE VOTE
CÉDULA DE VOTACIÓN

انتخاب ستة قضاة للمحكمة الجنائية الدولية لمحاكمة الأشخاص
المُسؤولين عن أعمال إبادة الأجناس وغير ذلك من الانتهاكات
الجسيمة للقانون الإنساني الدولي المرتكبة في إقليم رواتدا
والمواطنين الروانديين المسؤولين عن ارتكاب أعمال إبادة الأجناس
وغيرها من الانتهاكات المماثلة في أراضي الدول المجاورة
بين ١ كانون الثاني/يناير و ٣١ كانون الأول/ديسمبر ١٩٩٤

选举起诉应对1994年1月1日至12月31日期间在卢旺达境内的种族灭绝和其他严重违反国际人道主义法行为负责者和应对这一期间邻国境内种族灭绝和其他这类违法行为负责的卢旺达公民的国际刑事法庭六名法官

ELECTION OF SIX JUDGES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE
PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER
SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED
IN THE TERRITORY OF RWANDA AND RWANDAN CITIZENS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE
AND OTHER SUCH VIOLATIONS COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF NEIGHBOURING STATES
BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 31 DECEMBER 1994

ÉLECTION DE SIX JUGES DU TRIBUNAL CRIMINEL INTERNATIONAL CHARGÉ DE JUGER
LES PERSONNES PRÉSUMÉES RESPONSABLES D'ACTES DE GÉNOCIDE OU
D'AUTRES VIOLATIONS GRAVES DU DROIT INTERNATIONAL HUMANITAIRE COMMIS
SUR LE TERRITOIRE DU RWANDA ET LES CITOYENS RWANDAIS PRÉSUMÉS RESPONSABLES
DE TELS ACTES OU VIOLATIONS COMMIS SUR LE TERRITOIRE D'ÉTATS VOISINS
ENTRE LE 1^{er} JANVIER ET LE 31 DÉCEMBRE 1994

ВЫБОРЫ ШЕСТИ СУДЕЙ МЕЖДУНАРОДНОГО УГОЛОВНОГО ТРИБУНАЛА ДЛЯ
СУДЕБНОГО ПРЕСЛЕДОВАНИЯ ЛИЦ, ОТВЕТСТВЕННЫХ ЗА ГЕНОЦИД И ДРУГИЕ
СЕРЬЕЗНЫЕ НАРУШЕНИЯ МЕЖДУНАРОДНОГО ГУМАНИТАРНОГО ПРАВА,
СОВЕРШЕННЫЕ НА ТЕРРИТОРИИ РУАНДЫ, И ГРАЖДАН РУАНДЫ,
ОТВЕТСТВЕННЫХ ЗА ГЕНОЦИД И ДРУГИЕ ПОДОБНЫЕ НАРУШЕНИЯ,
СОВЕРШЕННЫЕ НА ТЕРРИТОРИИ СОСЕДНИХ ГОСУДАРСТВ,
В ПЕРИОД С 1 ЯНВАРЯ ПО 31 ДЕКАБРЯ 1994 ГОДА

ELECCIÓN DE LOS SEIS MAGISTRADOS DEL TRIBUNAL PENAL INTERNACIONAL PARA
EL ENJUICIAMIENTO DE LOS PRESUNTOS RESPONSABLES DE GENOCIDIO Y
OTRAS VIOLACIONES GRAVES DEL DERECHO INTERNACIONAL HUMANITARIO
COMETIDAS EN EL TERRITORIO DE RWANDA Y DE LOS CIUDADANOS RWANDESES
PRESUNTAMENTE RESPONSABLES DE GENOCIDIO Y OTRAS VIOLACIONES DE ESA
NATURALEZA COMETIDAS EN EL TERRITORIO DE ESTADOS VECINOS ENTRE EL
1º DE ENERO Y EL 31 DE DICIEMBRE DE 1994

1st ballot

ورقة تصويت

BALLOT PAPER

БЮЛЛЕТЕНЬ ДЛЯ ГОЛОСОВАНИЯ



选票

BULLETIN DE VOTE

CEDULA DE VOTACIÓN

انتخاب خمسة من أعضاء مجلس الأمن غير الدائمين ليحلوا محل الأعضاء الذين تنتهي مدة عضويتهم في ٣١ كانون الأول/ديسمبر ٢٠٠٦

选举安全理事会五个非常任理事国以接替于 2006 年 12 月 31 日任满的理事国

Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace those whose terms of office expire on 31 December 2006.

Election de cinq membres non permanents du Conseil de sécurité pour remplacer ceux dont le mandat vient à expiration le 31 décembre 2006

Выборы пяти непостоянных членов Совета Безопасности для замены тех членов срок полномочий которых истекает 31 декабря 2006 года

Elección de cinco miembros no permanentes del Consejo de Seguridad para reemplazar a aquéllos cuyo mandato termina el 31 de diciembre de 2006

B

دول أمريكا اللاتينية ومنطقة البحر الكاريبي

拉丁美洲和加勒比国家

Latin American and Caribbean States

États d'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes

Государства Латинской Америки и Карибского бассейна

Estados de América Latina y el Caribe

1

1.

1st ballot

ورقة تصويت

BALLOT PAPER

БЮЛЛЕТЕНЬ ДЛЯ ГОЛОСОВАНИЯ



选票

BULLETTIN DE VOTE

CEDULA DE VOTACIÓN

انتخاب خمسة من أعضاء مجلس الأمن غير الدائمين ليحلوا محل الأعضاء

الذين تنتهي مدة عضويتهم في ٣١ كانون الأول/ديسمبر ٢٠٠٦

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Elección de cinco miembros no permanentes del Consejo de Seguridad para reemplazar a aquéllos cuyo mandato termina el 31 de diciembre de 2006

sample

A

دول آسيا وأفريقيا

非洲和亚洲国家

African and Asian States

États d'Afrique et d'Asie

Государства Азии и Африки

Estados de Africa y Asia

} 2

1.
2.

1st ballot

ورقة تصويت

BALLOT PAPER

БЮЛЛЕТЕНЬ ДЛЯ ГОЛОСОВАНИЯ



选票

BULLETIN DE VOTE

CEDULA DE VOTACIÓN

انتخاب خمسة من أعضاء مجلس الأمن غير الدائمين ليحلوا محل الأعضاء الذين تنتهي مدة عضويتهم في ٣١ كانون الأول/ديسمبر ٢٠٠٦

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C

دول أوروبا الغربية والدول الأخرى

西欧和其它国家

Western European and other States

Etats d'Europe occidentale et autres Etats

Государства Западной Европы и другие государства

Estados de Europa occidental y otros Estados

2

1.

2.



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

20 March 2009

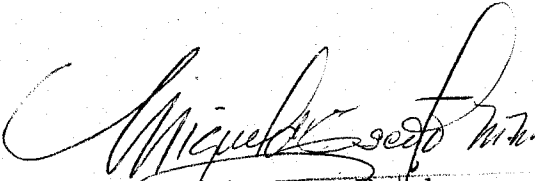
Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 62/276 on the Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly which was adopted on 15 September 2008.

I am pleased to announce my decision to appoint the Permanent Representative of Ecuador, H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa, and the Permanent Representative of Norway, H.E. Mr. Morten Wetland, as Co-chairpersons to facilitate the process of consultations on revitalization of the General the Assembly. It is my expectation that with the support of Member States substantive progress can be achieved during the sixty-third session.

I take this opportunity to thank the Co-chairpersons for kindly accepting this responsibility.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations



PERMANENT MISSION OF NORWAY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



PERMANENT MISSION OF ECUADOR
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

9 April 2009.

Excellency

As you are aware, on 20 March the President of the General Assembly appointed us as Co-Chairs of the consultation process with respect to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly. In his letter of appointment, the President emphasized the importance of achieving substantive progress on revitalization of the General Assembly during the sixty third session.

The first meeting of the ad-hoc working group on the revitalization of the General Assembly, established pursuant to resolution 62/276 of 15 September 2008, which will take place at 10 a.m., 15 April, will offer an opportunity for the membership to take stock of the developments achieved during the sixty second session, thanks to the excellent work of Ambassador Eladio Loizaga, Permanent Representative of Paraguay and Ambassador Andrzej Towpik, Permanent Representative of Poland, as Co-Chairs of the working group.

We suggest to guide our discussion with resolution 62/276, as well as the report of the working group of the 62nd session (A/62/952 and Add.1). It is the hope of the Co-Chairs to focus the continuing discussions in this line, and we look forward to have Member States provide their views on the next steps of the process, and suggest the key issues on which we should focus and that will allow us to reach substantive progress during the current Session.

The Co –Chairs will strive to be open and transparent, pragmatic and empirical, in their approach. After hearing the views of Member States on 15 April, we intend to bring forward a more detailed draft for an initial programme of work.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of our highest consideration.

Ambassador Morten Wetland
Permanent Representative of
Norway to the United Nations

Ambassador María Fernanda Espinosa
Permanent Representative of
Ecuador to the United Nations



PERMANENT MISSION OF NORWAY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



PERMANENT MISSION OF ECUADOR
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

29 May 2009

Excellency,

In our capacity as Co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly, we have, since convening the first Working Group meeting on 15 April, met with representatives of regional groups, as well as a number of delegations that have expressed a keen interest in this process, to seek their views and input on the work plan that we indicated we would circulate by the end of May. It has been our expressed aim to identify with you a manageable list of specific issues in order to achieve tangible results. The areas and issues listed below were the ones most frequently identified by Member States as most relevant to revitalization. Building on the extensive input of Member States, we therefore have the honour to propose the draft programme of work below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>
3 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Implementation of GA resolutions and the GA agenda- Operational and technical issues, including information on the voting GA system, in the framework of the Capital Master Plan;
5 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The role of the General Assembly and its relationship to the other principal organs of the Organisation and the visibility and public outreach capacity of the Assembly;- The role and responsibility of the General Assembly in the process of appointing Secretaries-General of the United Nations;
19 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly and enhancing its functions and relationship with the Secretariat.

As Co-chairs, we would like to renew our commitment to observing the principles of transparency and inclusiveness in our collective efforts to achieve substantive and tangible results during the current session, and we express our gratitude for the high level of interest shown by Member States, and we look forward to the active participation of delegations in the meetings ahead.

Please accept Excellency, the assurance of our highest consideration.

Ambassador María Fernanda Espinosa
Permanent Representative of
Ecuador to the United Nations

Ambassador Morten Wetland
Permanent Representative of
Norway to the United Nations



General Assembly

Distr.: General
14 August 2007

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 110

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/61/L.65)]

61/292. Revitalizing the role and authority of the General Assembly and strengthening its performance

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of its work, including resolutions 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264 of 29 July 1994, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301 of 13 March 2003, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316 of 1 July 2004, 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and 60/286 of 8 September 2006,

Stressing the importance of implementing resolutions on the revitalization of its work,

Commending the President of the General Assembly for her efforts during the sixty-first session, in particular with regard to holding thematic debates on issues of high importance to the Member States, as well as increasing the visibility of the Assembly and its work in the public, especially the media,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, at its sixty-second session, an update to his report¹ on the implementation of resolutions on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286 and the present resolution;

2. *Decides* to establish, at its sixty-second session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the General Assembly, open to all Member States, to evaluate and assess the status of implementation of relevant resolutions, to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on previous resolutions, and to submit a report thereon to the Assembly.

*106th plenary meeting
2 August 2007*

¹ A/61/483.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 October 2005

Sixtieth session
Agenda items 46 and 120

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.1)]

60/1. 2005 World Summit Outcome

The General Assembly

Adopts the following 2005 World Summit Outcome:

2005 World Summit Outcome

I. Values and principles

1. We, Heads of State and Government, have gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 14 to 16 September 2005.
2. We reaffirm our faith in the United Nations and our commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterate our determination to foster strict respect for them.
3. We reaffirm the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹ which we adopted at the dawn of the twenty-first century. We recognize the valuable role of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the Millennium Summit, in mobilizing the international community at the local, national, regional and global levels and in guiding the work of the United Nations.
4. We reaffirm that our common fundamental values, including freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for all human rights, respect for nature and shared responsibility, are essential to international relations.
5. We are determined to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter. We rededicate ourselves to support all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, respect their territorial integrity and political independence, to refrain in our international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, to uphold resolution of disputes by

¹ See resolution 55/2.

peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, the right to self-determination of peoples which remain under colonial domination and foreign occupation, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the equal rights of all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and the fulfilment in good faith of the obligations assumed in accordance with the Charter.

6. We reaffirm the vital importance of an effective multilateral system, in accordance with international law, in order to better address the multifaceted and interconnected challenges and threats confronting our world and to achieve progress in the areas of peace and security, development and human rights, underlining the central role of the United Nations, and commit ourselves to promoting and strengthening the effectiveness of the Organization through the implementation of its decisions and resolutions.

7. We believe that today, more than ever before, we live in a global and interdependent world. No State can stand wholly alone. We acknowledge that collective security depends on effective cooperation, in accordance with international law, against transnational threats.

8. We recognize that current developments and circumstances require that we urgently build consensus on major threats and challenges. We commit ourselves to translating that consensus into concrete action, including addressing the root causes of those threats and challenges with resolve and determination.

9. We acknowledge that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being. We recognize that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

10. We reaffirm that development is a central goal in itself and that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of United Nations activities.

11. We acknowledge that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger.

12. We reaffirm that gender equality and the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are essential to advance development and peace and security. We are committed to creating a world fit for future generations, which takes into account the best interests of the child.

13. We reaffirm the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights.

14. Acknowledging the diversity of the world, we recognize that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind. We acknowledge the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world. In order to promote international peace and security, we commit ourselves to advancing human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, as well as to encouraging tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples.

15. We pledge to enhance the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and credibility of the United Nations system. This is our shared responsibility and interest.

16. We therefore resolve to create a more peaceful, prosperous and democratic world and to undertake concrete measures to continue finding ways to implement the outcome of the Millennium Summit and the other major United Nations conferences and summits so as to provide multilateral solutions to problems in the four following areas:

- Development
- Peace and collective security
- Human rights and the rule of law
- Strengthening of the United Nations

II. Development

17. We strongly reiterate our determination to ensure the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including those agreed at the Millennium Summit that are described as the Millennium Development Goals, which have helped to galvanize efforts towards poverty eradication.

18. We emphasize the vital role played by the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives, which have contributed to improving human life in different parts of the world.

19. We reaffirm our commitment to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all. We are encouraged by reductions in poverty in some countries in the recent past and are determined to reinforce and extend this trend to benefit people worldwide. We remain concerned, however, about the slow and uneven progress towards poverty eradication and the realization of other development goals in some regions. We commit ourselves to promoting the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization. We underline the need for urgent action on all sides, including more ambitious national development strategies and efforts backed by increased international support.

Global partnership for development

20. We reaffirm our commitment to the global partnership for development set out in the Millennium Declaration,¹ the Monterrey Consensus² and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.³

21. We further reaffirm our commitment to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law, and to mobilize domestic resources, attract international

² Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development (*Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex).

³ Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (*Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II. A.1 and corrigendum), chap I, resolution 2, annex).

flows, promote international trade as an engine for development and increase international financial and technical cooperation for development, sustainable debt financing and external debt relief and to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems.

22. We reaffirm that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development. We also recognize that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty. To this end, we resolve:

(a) To adopt, by 2006, and implement comprehensive national development strategies to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals;

(b) To manage public finances effectively to achieve and maintain macroeconomic stability and long-term growth and to make effective and transparent use of public funds and ensure that development assistance is used to build national capacities;

(c) To support efforts by developing countries to adopt and implement national development policies and strategies through increased development assistance, the promotion of international trade as an engine for development, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, increased investment flows and wider and deeper debt relief, and to support developing countries by providing a substantial increase in aid of sufficient quality and arriving in a timely manner to assist them in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

(d) That the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations have meant that the space for national economic policy, that is, the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations. It is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space. It is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments;

(e) To enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership for development;

(f) To ensure that the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies support the efforts of developing countries through the common country assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, enhancing their support for capacity-building;

(g) To protect our natural resource base in support of development.

Financing for development

23. We reaffirm the Monterrey Consensus² and recognize that mobilizing financial resources for development and the effective use of those resources in developing countries and countries with economies in transition are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. In this regard:

(a) We are encouraged by recent commitments to substantial increases in official development assistance and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development estimate that official development assistance to all developing countries will now increase by around 50 billion United States dollars a year by 2010, while recognizing that a substantial increase in such assistance is required to achieve the internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, within their respective time frames;

(b) We welcome the increased resources that will become available as a result of the establishment of timetables by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2015 and to reach at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2010 as well as, pursuant to the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,⁴ 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent for the least developed countries no later than 2010, and urge those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

(c) We further welcome recent efforts and initiatives to enhance the quality of aid and to increase its impact, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and resolve to take concrete, effective and timely action in implementing all agreed commitments on aid effectiveness, with clear monitoring and deadlines, including through further aligning assistance with countries' strategies, building institutional capacities, reducing transaction costs and eliminating bureaucratic procedures, making progress on untying aid, enhancing the absorptive capacity and financial management of recipient countries and strengthening the focus on development results;

(d) We recognize the value of developing innovative sources of financing, provided those sources do not unduly burden developing countries. In that regard, we take note with interest of the international efforts, contributions and discussions, such as the Action against Hunger and Poverty, aimed at identifying innovative and additional sources of financing for development on a public, private, domestic or external basis to increase and supplement traditional sources of financing. Some countries will implement the International Finance Facility. Some countries have launched the International Finance Facility for immunization. Some countries will implement in the near future, utilizing their national authorities, a contribution on airline tickets to enable the financing of development projects, in particular in the health sector, directly or through financing of the International Finance Facility. Other countries are considering whether and to what extent they will participate in these initiatives;

⁴ A/CONF.191/13, chap. II.

(e) We acknowledge the vital role the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development;

(f) We resolve to address the development needs of low-income developing countries by working in competent multilateral and international forums, to help them meet, inter alia, their financial, technical and technological requirements;

(g) We resolve to continue to support the development efforts of middle-income developing countries by working, in competent multilateral and international forums and also through bilateral arrangements, on measures to help them meet, inter alia, their financial, technical and technological requirements;

(h) We resolve to operationalize the World Solidarity Fund established by the General Assembly and invite those countries in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the Fund;

(i) We recognize the need for access to financial services, in particular for the poor, including through microfinance and microcredit.

Domestic resource mobilization

24. In our common pursuit of growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, a critical challenge is to ensure the necessary internal conditions for mobilizing domestic savings, both public and private, sustaining adequate levels of productive investment, increasing human capacity, reducing capital flight, curbing the illicit transfer of funds and enhancing international cooperation for creating an enabling domestic environment. We undertake to support the efforts of developing countries to create a domestic enabling environment for mobilizing domestic resources. To this end, we therefore resolve:

(a) To pursue good governance and sound macroeconomic policies at all levels and support developing countries in their efforts to put in place the policies and investments to drive sustained economic growth, promote small and medium-sized enterprises, promote employment generation and stimulate the private sector;

(b) To reaffirm that good governance is essential for sustainable development; that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation; and that freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, the rule of law, gender equality and market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

(c) To make the fight against corruption a priority at all levels and we welcome all actions taken in this regard at the national and international levels, including the adoption of policies that emphasize accountability, transparent public sector management and corporate responsibility and accountability, including efforts to return assets transferred through corruption, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption.⁵ We urge all States that have not done so to consider signing, ratifying and implementing the Convention;

(d) To channel private capabilities and resources into stimulating the private sector in developing countries through actions in the public, public/private and

⁵ Resolution 58/4, annex.

private spheres to create an enabling environment for partnership and innovation that contributes to accelerated economic development and hunger and poverty eradication;

(e) To support efforts to reduce capital flight and measures to curb the illicit transfer of funds.

Investment

25. We resolve to encourage greater direct investment, including foreign investment, in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to support their development activities and to enhance the benefits they can derive from such investments. In this regard:

(a) We continue to support efforts by developing countries and countries with economies in transition to create a domestic environment conducive to attracting investments through, inter alia, achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights and the rule of law and pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks that encourage business formation;

(b) We will put into place policies to ensure adequate investment in a sustainable manner in health, clean water and sanitation, housing and education and in the provision of public goods and social safety nets to protect vulnerable and disadvantaged sectors of society;

(c) We invite national Governments seeking to develop infrastructure projects and generate foreign direct investment to pursue strategies with the involvement of both the public and private sectors and, where appropriate, international donors;

(d) We call upon international financial and banking institutions to consider enhancing the transparency of risk rating mechanisms. Sovereign risk assessments, made by the private sector should maximize the use of strict, objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis;

(e) We underscore the need to sustain sufficient and stable private financial flows to developing countries and countries with economies in transition. It is important to promote measures in source and destination countries to improve transparency and the information about financial flows to developing countries, particularly countries in Africa, the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries. Measures that mitigate the impact of excessive volatility of short-term capital flows are important and must be considered.

Debt

26. We emphasize the high importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, since debt financing and relief can be an important source of capital for development. To this end:

(a) We welcome the recent proposals of the Group of Eight to cancel 100 per cent of the outstanding debt of eligible heavily indebted poor countries owed to the International Monetary Fund, the International Development Association and African Development Fund and to provide additional resources to ensure that the financing capacity of the international financial institutions is not reduced;

(b) We emphasize that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth and underline the importance of debt sustainability to the efforts to achieve national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, recognizing the key role that debt relief can play in liberating resources that can be directed towards activities consistent with poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

(c) We further stress the need to consider additional measures and initiatives aimed at ensuring long-term debt sustainability through increased grant-based financing, cancellation of 100 per cent of the official multilateral and bilateral debt of heavily indebted poor countries and, where appropriate, and on a case-by-case basis, to consider significant debt relief or restructuring for low- and middle-income developing countries with an unsustainable debt burden that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, as well as the exploration of mechanisms to comprehensively address the debt problems of those countries. Such mechanisms may include debt for sustainable development swaps or multicreditor debt swap arrangements, as appropriate. These initiatives could include further efforts by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to develop the debt sustainability framework for low-income countries. This should be achieved in a fashion that does not detract from official development assistance resources, while maintaining the financial integrity of the multilateral financial institutions.

Trade

27. A universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can substantially stimulate development worldwide, benefiting countries at all stages of development. In that regard, we reaffirm our commitment to trade liberalization and to ensure that trade plays its full part in promoting economic growth, employment and development for all.

28. We are committed to efforts designed to ensure that developing countries, especially the least-developed countries, participate fully in the world trading system in order to meet their economic development needs, and reaffirm our commitment to enhanced and predictable market access for the exports of developing countries.

29. We will work towards the objective, in accordance with the Brussels Programme of Action,⁴ of duty-free and quota-free market access for all least developed countries' products to the markets of developed countries, as well as to the markets of developing countries in a position to do so, and support their efforts to overcome their supply-side constraints.

30. We are committed to supporting and promoting increased aid to build productive and trade capacities of developing countries and to taking further steps in that regard, while welcoming the substantial support already provided.

31. We will work to accelerate and facilitate the accession of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to the World Trade Organization consistent with its criteria, recognizing the importance of universal integration in the rules-based global trading system.

32. We will work expeditiously towards implementing the development dimensions of the Doha work programme.⁶

Commodities

33. We emphasize the need to address the impact of weak and volatile commodity prices and support the efforts of commodity-dependent countries to restructure, diversify and strengthen the competitiveness of their commodity sectors.

Quick-impact initiatives

34. Given the need to accelerate progress immediately in countries where current trends make the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals unlikely, we resolve to urgently identify and implement country-led initiatives with adequate international support, consistent with long-term national development strategies, that promise immediate and durable improvements in the lives of people and renewed hope for the achievement of the development goals. In this regard, we will take such actions as the distribution of malaria bed nets, including free distribution, where appropriate, and effective anti-malarial treatments, the expansion of local school meal programmes, using home-grown foods where possible, and the elimination of user fees for primary education and, where appropriate, health-care services.

Systemic issues and global economic decision-making

35. We reaffirm the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, and to that end stress the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, noting that enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Bretton Woods institutions remains a continuous concern.

36. We reaffirm our commitment to governance, equity and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems. We are also committed to open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial systems.

37. We also underscore our commitment to sound domestic financial sectors, which make a vital contribution to national development efforts, as an important component of an international financial architecture that is supportive of development.

38. We further reaffirm the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and we resolve to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development.

39. Good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development. In order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international

⁶ See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance through addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries. To this effect, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing the market access of developing countries.

South-South cooperation

40. We recognize the achievements and great potential of South-South cooperation and encourage the promotion of such cooperation, which complements North-South cooperation as an effective contribution to development and as a means to share best practices and provide enhanced technical cooperation. In this context, we note the recent decision of the leaders of the South, adopted at the Second South Summit and contained in the Doha Declaration⁷ and the Doha Plan of Action,⁸ to intensify their efforts at South-South cooperation, including through the establishment of the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership and other regional cooperation mechanisms, and encourage the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of developing countries, inter alia, through triangular cooperation. We also take note with appreciation of the launching of the third round of negotiations on the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries as an important instrument to stimulate South-South cooperation.

41. We welcome the work of the United Nations High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation and invite countries to consider supporting the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation within the United Nations Development Programme in order to respond effectively to the development needs of developing countries.

42. We recognize the considerable contribution of arrangements such as the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries Fund initiated by a group of developing countries, as well as the potential contribution of the South Fund for Development and Humanitarian Assistance, to development activities in developing countries.

Education

43. We emphasize the critical role of both formal and informal education in the achievement of poverty eradication and other development goals as envisaged in the Millennium Declaration,¹ in particular basic education and training for eradicating illiteracy, and strive for expanded secondary and higher education as well as vocational education and technical training, especially for girls and women, the creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and the empowerment of those living in poverty. In this context, we reaffirm the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum in 2000⁹ and recognize the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education for

⁷ A/60/111, annex I.

⁸ Ibid., annex II.

⁹ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

All programmes as a tool to achieve the millennium development goal of universal primary education by 2015.

44. We reaffirm our commitment to support developing country efforts to ensure that all children have access to and complete free and compulsory primary education of good quality, to eliminate gender inequality and imbalance and to renew efforts to improve girls' education. We also commit ourselves to continuing to support the efforts of developing countries in the implementation of the Education for All initiative, including with enhanced resources of all types through the Education for All fast-track initiative in support of country-led national education plans.

45. We commit ourselves to promoting education for peace and human development.

Rural and agricultural development

46. We reaffirm that food security and rural and agricultural development must be adequately and urgently addressed in the context of national development and response strategies and, in this context, will enhance the contributions of indigenous and local communities, as appropriate. We are convinced that the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, particularly as they affect children, is crucial for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Rural and agricultural development should be an integral part of national and international development policies. We deem it necessary to increase productive investment in rural and agricultural development to achieve food security. We commit ourselves to increasing support for agricultural development and trade capacity-building in the agricultural sector in developing countries. Support for commodity development projects, especially market-based projects, and for their preparation under the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities should be encouraged.

Employment

47. We strongly support fair globalization and resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of our relevant national and international policies as well as our national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. These measures should also encompass the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, as defined in International Labour Organization Convention No. 182, and forced labour. We also resolve to ensure full respect for the fundamental principles and rights at work.

Sustainable development: managing and protecting our common environment

48. We reaffirm our commitment to achieve the goal of sustainable development, including through the implementation of Agenda 21¹⁰ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.³ To this end, we commit ourselves to undertaking concrete actions and measures at all levels and to enhancing international cooperation, taking into account the Rio principles.¹¹ These efforts will also promote the integration of the

¹⁰ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, annex I.

three components of sustainable development – economic development, social development and environmental protection – as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars. Poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development.

49. We will promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and all countries benefiting from the process, as called for in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. In that context, we support developing countries in their efforts to promote a recycling economy.

50. We face serious and multiple challenges in tackling climate change, promoting clean energy, meeting energy needs and achieving sustainable development, and we will act with resolve and urgency in this regard.

51. We recognize that climate change is a serious and long-term challenge that has the potential to affect every part of the globe. We emphasize the need to meet all the commitments and obligations we have undertaken in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹² and other relevant international agreements, including, for many of us, the Kyoto Protocol.¹³ The Convention is the appropriate framework for addressing future action on climate change at the global level.

52. We reaffirm our commitment to the ultimate objective of the Convention: to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.

53. We acknowledge that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation and participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with the principles of the Convention. We are committed to moving forward the global discussion on long-term cooperative action to address climate change, in accordance with these principles. We stress the importance of the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, to be held in Montreal in November 2005.

54. We acknowledge various partnerships that are under way to advance action on clean energy and climate change, including bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives.

55. We are committed to taking further action through practical international cooperation, inter alia:

(a) To promote innovation, clean energy and energy efficiency and conservation; improve policy, regulatory and financing frameworks; and accelerate the deployment of cleaner technologies;

(b) To enhance private investment, transfer of technologies and capacity-building to developing countries, as called for in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, taking into account their own energy needs and priorities;

(c) To assist developing countries to improve their resilience and integrate adaptation goals into their sustainable development strategies, given that adaptation to the effects of climate change due to both natural and human factors is a high

¹² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

¹³ FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

priority for all nations, particularly those most vulnerable, namely, those referred to in article 4.8 of the Convention;

(d) To continue to assist developing countries, in particular small island developing States, least developed countries and African countries, including those that are particularly vulnerable to climate change, in addressing their adaptation needs relating to the adverse effects of climate change.

56. In pursuance of our commitment to achieve sustainable development, we further resolve:

(a) To promote the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and the International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”;

(b) To support and strengthen the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,¹⁴ to address causes of desertification and land degradation, as well as poverty resulting from land degradation, through, inter alia, the mobilization of adequate and predictable financial resources, the transfer of technology and capacity-building at all levels;

(c) That the States parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity¹⁵ and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety¹⁶ should support the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol, as well as other biodiversity-related agreements and the Johannesburg commitment for a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010. The States parties will continue to negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines,¹⁷ an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. All States will fulfil commitments and significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010 and continue ongoing efforts towards elaborating and negotiating an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing;

(d) To recognize that the sustainable development of indigenous peoples and their communities is crucial in our fight against hunger and poverty;

(e) To reaffirm our commitment, subject to national legislation, to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization;

(f) To work expeditiously towards the establishment of a worldwide early warning system for all natural hazards with regional nodes, building on existing national and regional capacity such as the newly established Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System;

¹⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹⁶ UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

¹⁷ UNEP/CBD/COP/6/20, annex I, decision VI/24A.

(g) To fully implement the Hyogo Declaration¹⁸ and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015¹⁹ adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, in particular those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

(h) To assist developing countries' efforts to prepare integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans as part of their national development strategies and to provide access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation in accordance with the Millennium Declaration¹ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,³ including halving by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or afford safe drinking water and who do not have access to basic sanitation;

(i) To accelerate the development and dissemination of affordable and cleaner energy efficiency and energy conservation technologies, as well as the transfer of such technologies, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, bearing in mind that access to energy facilitates the eradication of poverty;

(j) To strengthen the conservation, sustainable management and development of all types of forests for the benefit of current and future generations, including through enhanced international cooperation, so that trees and forests may contribute fully to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, taking full account of the linkages between the forest sector and other sectors. We look forward to the discussions at the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests;

(k) To promote the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, aiming to achieve that by 2020 chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment using transparent and science-based risk assessment and risk management procedures, by adopting and implementing a voluntary strategic approach to international management of chemicals, and to support developing countries in strengthening their capacity for the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes by providing technical and financial assistance, as appropriate;

(l) To improve cooperation and coordination at all levels in order to address issues related to oceans and seas in an integrated manner and promote integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas;

(m) To achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, recognizing the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading, and to encourage support for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and its Slum Upgrading Facility;

¹⁸ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

¹⁹ Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2).

(n) To acknowledge the invaluable role of the Global Environment Facility in facilitating cooperation with developing countries; we look forward to a successful replenishment this year along with the successful conclusion of all outstanding commitments from the third replenishment;

(o) To note that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries and recognize the right of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law. States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the aegis of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials. States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns. These concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport.

HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other health issues

57. We recognize that HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases pose severe risks for the entire world and serious challenges to the achievement of development goals. We acknowledge the substantial efforts and financial contributions made by the international community, while recognizing that these diseases and other emerging health challenges require a sustained international response. To this end, we commit ourselves to:

(a) Increasing investment, building on existing mechanisms and through partnership, to improve health systems in developing countries and those with economies in transition with the aim of providing sufficient health workers, infrastructure, management systems and supplies to achieve the health-related Millennium Development Goals by 2015;

(b) Implementing measures to increase the capacity of adults and adolescents to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection;

(c) Fully implementing all commitments established by the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS²⁰ through stronger leadership, the scaling up of a comprehensive response to achieve broad multisectoral coverage for prevention, care, treatment and support, the mobilization of additional resources from national, bilateral, multilateral and private sources and the substantial funding of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as well as of the HIV/AIDS component of the work programmes of the United Nations system agencies and programmes engaged in the fight against HIV/AIDS;

(d) Developing and implementing a package for HIV prevention, treatment and care with the aim of coming as close as possible to the goal of universal access to treatment by 2010 for all those who need it, including through increased resources, and working towards the elimination of stigma and discrimination, enhanced access to affordable medicines and the reduction of vulnerability of

²⁰ Resolution S-26/2, annex.

persons affected by HIV/AIDS and other health issues, in particular orphaned and vulnerable children and older persons;

(e) Ensuring the full implementation of our obligations under the International Health Regulations adopted by the fifty-eighth World Health Assembly in May 2005,²¹ including the need to support the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network of the World Health Organization;

(f) Working actively to implement the “Three Ones” principles in all countries, including by ensuring that multiple institutions and international partners all work under one agreed HIV/AIDS framework that provides the basis for coordinating the work of all partners, with one national AIDS coordinating authority having a broad-based multisectoral mandate, and under one agreed country-level monitoring and evaluation system. We welcome and support the important recommendations of the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors;

(g) Achieving universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development, integrating this goal in strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS and eradicating poverty;

(h) Promoting long-term funding, including public-private partnerships where appropriate, for academic and industrial research as well as for the development of new vaccines and microbicides, diagnostic kits, drugs and treatments to address major pandemics, tropical diseases and other diseases, such as avian flu and severe acute respiratory syndrome, and taking forward work on market incentives, where appropriate through such mechanisms as advance purchase commitments;

(i) Stressing the need to urgently address malaria and tuberculosis, in particular in the most affected countries, and welcoming the scaling up, in this regard, of bilateral and multilateral initiatives.

Gender equality and empowerment of women

58. We remain convinced that progress for women is progress for all. We reaffirm that the full and effective implementation of the goals and objectives of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action²² and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly is an essential contribution to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and we resolve to promote gender equality and eliminate pervasive gender discrimination by:

(a) Eliminating gender inequalities in primary and secondary education by the earliest possible date and at all educational levels by 2015;

(b) Guaranteeing the free and equal right of women to own and inherit property and ensuring secure tenure of property and housing by women;

²¹ World Health Assembly resolution 58.3.

²² *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

- (c) Ensuring equal access to reproductive health;
- (d) Promoting women's equal access to labour markets, sustainable employment and adequate labour protection;
- (e) Ensuring equal access of women to productive assets and resources, including land, credit and technology;
- (f) Eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and the girl child, including by ending impunity and by ensuring the protection of civilians, in particular women and the girl child, during and after armed conflicts in accordance with the obligations of States under international humanitarian law and international human rights law;
- (g) Promoting increased representation of women in Government decision-making bodies, including through ensuring their equal opportunity to participate fully in the political process.

59. We recognize the importance of gender mainstreaming as a tool for achieving gender equality. To that end, we undertake to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres, and further undertake to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender.

Science and technology for development

60. We recognize that science and technology, including information and communication technology, are vital for the achievement of the development goals and that international support can help developing countries to benefit from technological advancements and enhance their productive capacity. We therefore commit ourselves to:

- (a) Strengthening and enhancing existing mechanisms and supporting initiatives for research and development, including through voluntary partnerships between the public and private sectors, to address the special needs of developing countries in the areas of health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;
- (b) Promoting and facilitating, as appropriate, access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, to developing countries;
- (c) Assisting developing countries in their efforts to promote and develop national strategies for human resources and science and technology, which are primary drivers of national capacity-building for development;
- (d) Promoting and supporting greater efforts to develop renewable sources of energy, such as solar, wind and geothermal;
- (e) Implementing policies at the national and international levels to attract both public and private investment, domestic and foreign, that enhances knowledge, transfers technology on mutually agreed terms and raises productivity;
- (f) Supporting the efforts of developing countries, individually and collectively, to harness new agricultural technologies in order to increase agricultural productivity through environmentally sustainable means;

(g) Building a people-centred and inclusive information society so as to enhance digital opportunities for all people in order to help bridge the digital divide, putting the potential of information and communication technologies at the service of development and addressing new challenges of the information society by implementing the outcomes of the Geneva phase of the World Summit on the Information Society and ensuring the success of the second phase of the Summit, to be held in Tunis in November 2005; in this regard, we welcome the establishment of the Digital Solidarity Fund and encourage voluntary contributions to its financing.

Migration and development

61. We acknowledge the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, destination and transit. We recognize that international migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community. We look forward to the high-level dialogue of the General Assembly on international migration and development to be held in 2006, which will offer an opportunity to discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize their development benefits and minimize their negative impacts.

62. We reaffirm our resolve to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families.

63. We reaffirm the need to adopt policies and undertake measures to reduce the cost of transferring migrant remittances to developing countries and welcome efforts by Governments and stakeholders in this regard.

Countries with special needs

64. We reaffirm our commitment to address the special needs of the least developed countries and urge all countries and all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, to make concerted efforts and adopt speedy measures for meeting in a timely manner the goals and targets of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010.⁴

65. We recognize the special needs of and challenges faced by landlocked developing countries and therefore reaffirm our commitment to urgently address those needs and challenges through the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries²³ and the São Paulo Consensus adopted at the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.²⁴ We encourage the work undertaken by United Nations regional commissions and organizations towards establishing a time-cost methodology for indicators to measure the progress in implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action. We also recognize the special difficulties and concerns of landlocked developing countries in their efforts to integrate their economies into the

²³ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.*

²⁴ TD/412, part II.

multilateral trading system. In this regard, priority should be given to the full and timely implementation of the Almaty Declaration²⁵ and the Almaty Programme of Action.²³

66. We recognize the special needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing States and reaffirm our commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address those needs and vulnerabilities through the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,²⁶ the Barbados Programme of Action²⁷ and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly.²⁸ We further undertake to promote greater international cooperation and partnership for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy through, inter alia, the mobilization of domestic and international resources, the promotion of international trade as an engine for development and increased international financial and technical cooperation.

67. We emphasize the need for continued, coordinated and effective international support for achieving the development goals in countries emerging from conflict and in those recovering from natural disasters.

Meeting the special needs of Africa

68. We welcome the substantial progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments and emphasize the need to carry forward the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development²⁹ to promote sustainable growth and development and deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management and gender equality and encourage African countries, with the participation of civil society and the private sector, to continue their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and the development of the region, and also welcome the recent decisions taken by Africa's partners, including the Group of Eight and the European Union, in support of Africa's development efforts, including commitments that will lead to an increase in official development assistance to Africa of 25 billion dollars per year by 2010. We reaffirm our commitment to address the special needs of Africa, which is the only continent not on track to meet any of the goals of the Millennium Declaration by 2015, to enable it to enter the mainstream of the world economy, and resolve:

(a) To strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership for Africa's Development by providing coherent support for the programmes drawn up by African leaders within that framework, including by mobilizing internal and

²⁵ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.*

²⁶ *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.*

²⁷ *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.*

²⁸ Resolution S-22/2, annex.

²⁹ A/57/304, annex.

external financial resources and facilitating approval of such programmes by the multilateral financial institutions;

(b) To support the African commitment to ensure that by 2015 all children have access to complete, free and compulsory primary education of good quality, as well as to basic health care;

(c) To support the building of an international infrastructure consortium involving the African Union, the World Bank and the African Development Bank, with the New Partnership for Africa's Development as the main framework, to facilitate public and private infrastructure investment in Africa;

(d) To promote a comprehensive and durable solution to the external debt problems of African countries, including through the cancellation of 100 per cent of multilateral debt consistent with the recent Group of Eight proposal for the heavily indebted poor countries, and, on a case-by-case basis, where appropriate, significant debt relief, including, inter alia, cancellation or restructuring for heavily indebted African countries not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative that have unsustainable debt burdens;

(e) To make efforts to fully integrate African countries in the international trading system, including through targeted trade capacity-building programmes;

(f) To support the efforts of commodity-dependent African countries to restructure, diversify and strengthen the competitiveness of their commodity sectors and decide to work towards market-based arrangements with the participation of the private sector for commodity price-risk management;

(g) To supplement the efforts of African countries, individually and collectively, to increase agricultural productivity, in a sustainable way, as set out in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development as part of an African "Green Revolution";

(h) To encourage and support the initiatives of the African Union and subregional organizations to prevent, mediate and resolve conflicts with the assistance of the United Nations, and in this regard welcomes the proposals from the Group of Eight countries to provide support for African peacekeeping;

(i) To provide, with the aim of an AIDS-, malaria- and tuberculosis-free generation in Africa, assistance for prevention and care and to come as close as possible to achieving the goal of universal access by 2010 to HIV/AIDS treatment in African countries, to encourage pharmaceutical companies to make drugs, including antiretroviral drugs, affordable and accessible in Africa and to ensure increased bilateral and multilateral assistance, where possible on a grant basis, to combat malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa through the strengthening of health systems.

III. Peace and collective security

69. We recognize that we are facing a whole range of threats that require our urgent, collective and more determined response.

70. We also recognize that, in accordance with the Charter, addressing such threats requires cooperation among all the principal organs of the United Nations within their respective mandates.

71. We acknowledge that we are living in an interdependent and global world and that many of today's threats recognize no national boundaries, are interlinked and

must be tackled at the global, regional and national levels in accordance with the Charter and international law.

72. We therefore reaffirm our commitment to work towards a security consensus based on the recognition that many threats are interlinked, that development, peace, security and human rights are mutually reinforcing, that no State can best protect itself by acting entirely alone and that all States need an effective and efficient collective security system pursuant to the purposes and principles of the Charter.

Pacific settlement of disputes

73. We emphasize the obligation of States to settle their disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, including, when appropriate, by the use of the International Court of Justice. All States should act in accordance with the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.³⁰

74. We stress the importance of prevention of armed conflict in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and solemnly renew our commitment to promote a culture of prevention of armed conflict as a means of effectively addressing the interconnected security and development challenges faced by peoples throughout the world, as well as to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations for the prevention of armed conflict.

75. We further stress the importance of a coherent and integrated approach to the prevention of armed conflicts and the settlement of disputes and the need for the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Secretary-General to coordinate their activities within their respective Charter mandates.

76. Recognizing the important role of the good offices of the Secretary-General, including in the mediation of disputes, we support the Secretary-General's efforts to strengthen his capacity in this area.

Use of force under the Charter of the United Nations

77. We reiterate the obligation of all Member States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the Charter. We reaffirm that the purposes and principles guiding the United Nations are, inter alia, to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, and to that end we are determined to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, the adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations that might lead to a breach of the peace.

78. We reiterate the importance of promoting and strengthening the multilateral process and of addressing international challenges and problems by strictly abiding

³⁰ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

by the Charter and the principles of international law, and further stress our commitment to multilateralism.

79. We reaffirm that the relevant provisions of the Charter are sufficient to address the full range of threats to international peace and security. We further reaffirm the authority of the Security Council to mandate coercive action to maintain and restore international peace and security. We stress the importance of acting in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter.

80. We also reaffirm that the Security Council has primary responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security. We also note the role of the General Assembly relating to the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter.

Terrorism

81. We strongly condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes, as it constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security.

82. We welcome the Secretary-General's identification of elements of a counter-terrorism strategy. These elements should be developed by the General Assembly without delay with a view to adopting and implementing a strategy to promote comprehensive, coordinated and consistent responses, at the national, regional and international levels, to counter terrorism, which also takes into account the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. In this context, we commend the various initiatives to promote dialogue, tolerance and understanding among civilizations.

83. We stress the need to make every effort to reach an agreement on and conclude a comprehensive convention on international terrorism during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly.

84. We acknowledge that the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate an international response to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations could be considered.

85. We recognize that international cooperation to fight terrorism must be conducted in conformity with international law, including the Charter and relevant international conventions and protocols. States must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with their obligations under international law, in particular human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law.

86. We reiterate our call upon States to refrain from organizing, financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities and to take appropriate measures to ensure that their territories are not used for such activities.

87. We acknowledge the important role played by the United Nations in combating terrorism and also stress the vital contribution of regional and bilateral cooperation, particularly at the practical level of law enforcement cooperation and technical exchange.

88. We urge the international community, including the United Nations, to assist States in building national and regional capacity to combat terrorism. We invite the Secretary-General to submit proposals to the General Assembly and the Security Council, within their respective mandates, to strengthen the capacity of the United

Nations system to assist States in combating terrorism and to enhance the coordination of United Nations activities in this regard.

89. We stress the importance of assisting victims of terrorism and of providing them and their families with support to cope with their loss and their grief.

90. We encourage the Security Council to consider ways to strengthen its monitoring and enforcement role in counter-terrorism, including by consolidating State reporting requirements, taking into account and respecting the different mandates of its counter-terrorism subsidiary bodies. We are committed to cooperating fully with the three competent subsidiary bodies in the fulfilment of their tasks, recognizing that many States continue to require assistance in implementing relevant Security Council resolutions.

91. We support efforts for the early entry into force of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism³¹ and strongly encourage States to consider becoming parties to it expeditiously and acceding without delay to the twelve other international conventions and protocols against terrorism and implementing them.

Peacekeeping

92. Recognizing that United Nations peacekeeping plays a vital role in helping parties to conflict end hostilities and commending the contribution of United Nations peacekeepers in that regard, noting improvements made in recent years in United Nations peacekeeping, including the deployment of integrated missions in complex situations, and stressing the need to mount operations with adequate capacity to counter hostilities and fulfil effectively their mandates, we urge further development of proposals for enhanced rapidly deployable capacities to reinforce peacekeeping operations in crises. We endorse the creation of an initial operating capability for a standing police capacity to provide coherent, effective and responsive start-up capability for the policing component of the United Nations peacekeeping missions and to assist existing missions through the provision of advice and expertise.

93. Recognizing the important contribution to peace and security by regional organizations as provided for under Chapter VIII of the Charter and the importance of forging predictable partnerships and arrangements between the United Nations and regional organizations, and noting in particular, given the special needs of Africa, the importance of a strong African Union:

(a) We support the efforts of the European Union and other regional entities to develop capacities such as for rapid deployment, standby and bridging arrangements;

(b) We support the development and implementation of a ten-year plan for capacity-building with the African Union.

³¹ Resolution 59/290, annex.

94. We support implementation of the 2001 Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.³²

95. We urge States parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention³³ and Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons³⁴ to fully implement their respective obligations. We call upon States in a position to do so to provide greater technical assistance to mine-affected States.

96. We underscore the importance of the recommendations of the Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Peacekeeping Personnel,³⁵ and urge that those measures adopted in the relevant General Assembly resolutions based upon the recommendations be fully implemented without delay.

Peacebuilding

97. Emphasizing the need for a coordinated, coherent and integrated approach to post-conflict peacebuilding and reconciliation with a view to achieving sustainable peace, recognizing the need for a dedicated institutional mechanism to address the special needs of countries emerging from conflict towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction and to assist them in laying the foundation for sustainable development, and recognizing the vital role of the United Nations in that regard, we decide to establish a Peacebuilding Commission as an intergovernmental advisory body.

98. The main purpose of the Peacebuilding Commission is to bring together all relevant actors to marshal resources and to advise on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery. The Commission should focus attention on the reconstruction and institution-building efforts necessary for recovery from conflict and support the development of integrated strategies in order to lay the foundation for sustainable development. In addition, it should provide recommendations and information to improve the coordination of all relevant actors within and outside the United Nations, develop best practices, help to ensure predictable financing for early recovery activities and extend the period of attention by the international community to post-conflict recovery. The Commission should act in all matters on the basis of consensus of its members.

99. The Peacebuilding Commission should make the outcome of its discussions and recommendations publicly available as United Nations documents to all relevant bodies and actors, including the international financial institutions. The Peacebuilding Commission should submit an annual report to the General Assembly.

100. The Peacebuilding Commission should meet in various configurations. Country-specific meetings of the Commission, upon invitation of the Organizational

³² See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

³³ Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597).

³⁴ Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B).

³⁵ A/59/710, paras. 68-93.

Committee referred to in paragraph 101 below, should include as members, in addition to members of the Organizational Committee, representatives from:

- (a) The country under consideration;
- (b) Countries in the region engaged in the post-conflict process and other countries that are involved in relief efforts and/or political dialogue, as well as relevant regional and subregional organizations;
- (c) The major financial, troop and civilian police contributors involved in the recovery effort;
- (d) The senior United Nations representative in the field and other relevant United Nations representatives;
- (e) Such regional and international financial institutions as may be relevant.

101. The Peacebuilding Commission should have a standing Organizational Committee, responsible for developing its procedures and organizational matters, comprising:

- (a) Members of the Security Council, including permanent members;
- (b) Members of the Economic and Social Council, elected from regional groups, giving due consideration to those countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery;
- (c) Top providers of assessed contributions to the United Nations budgets and voluntary contributions to the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, including the standing Peacebuilding Fund, that are not among those selected in (a) or (b) above;
- (d) Top providers of military personnel and civilian police to United Nations missions that are not among those selected in (a), (b) or (c) above.

102. Representatives from the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other institutional donors should be invited to participate in all meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission in a manner suitable to their governing arrangements, in addition to a representative of the Secretary-General.

103. We request the Secretary-General to establish a multi-year standing Peacebuilding Fund for post-conflict peacebuilding, funded by voluntary contributions and taking due account of existing instruments. The objectives of the Peacebuilding Fund will include ensuring the immediate release of resources needed to launch peacebuilding activities and the availability of appropriate financing for recovery.

104. We also request the Secretary-General to establish, within the Secretariat and from within existing resources, a small peacebuilding support office staffed by qualified experts to assist and support the Peacebuilding Commission. The office should draw on the best expertise available.

105. The Peacebuilding Commission should begin its work no later than 31 December 2005.

Sanctions

106. We underscore that sanctions remain an important tool under the Charter in our efforts to maintain international peace and security without recourse to the use of force, and resolve to ensure that sanctions are carefully targeted in support of clear

objectives, to comply with sanctions established by the Security Council and to ensure that sanctions are implemented in ways that balance effectiveness to achieve the desired results against the possible adverse consequences, including socio-economic and humanitarian consequences, for populations and third States.

107. Sanctions should be implemented and monitored effectively with clear benchmarks and should be periodically reviewed, as appropriate, and remain for as limited a period as necessary to achieve their objectives and should be terminated once the objectives have been achieved.

108. We call upon the Security Council, with the support of the Secretary-General, to improve its monitoring of the implementation and effects of sanctions, to ensure that sanctions are implemented in an accountable manner, to review regularly the results of such monitoring and to develop a mechanism to address special economic problems arising from the application of sanctions in accordance with the Charter.

109. We also call upon the Security Council, with the support of the Secretary-General, to ensure that fair and clear procedures exist for placing individuals and entities on sanctions lists and for removing them, as well as for granting humanitarian exemptions.

110. We support efforts through the United Nations to strengthen State capacity to implement sanctions provisions.

Transnational crime

111. We express our grave concern at the negative effects on development, peace and security and human rights posed by transnational crime, including the smuggling of and trafficking in human beings, the world narcotic drug problem and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, and at the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime. We reaffirm the need to work collectively to combat transnational crime.

112. We recognize that trafficking in persons continues to pose a serious challenge to humanity and requires a concerted international response. To that end, we urge all States to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims.

113. We urge all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the relevant international conventions on organized crime and corruption and, following their entry into force, to implement them effectively, including by incorporating the provisions of those conventions into national legislation and by strengthening criminal justice systems.

114. We reaffirm our unwavering determination and commitment to overcome the world narcotic drug problem through international cooperation and national strategies to eliminate both the illicit supply of and demand for illicit drugs.

115. We resolve to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandates, to provide assistance to Member States in those tasks upon request.

Women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts

116. We stress the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding. We reaffirm our commitment to the full and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on

women and peace and security. We also underline the importance of integrating a gender perspective and of women having the opportunity for equal participation and full involvement in all efforts to maintain and promote peace and security, as well as the need to increase their role in decision-making at all levels. We strongly condemn all violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed conflict and the use of sexual exploitation, violence and abuse, and we commit ourselves to elaborating and implementing strategies to report on, prevent and punish gender-based violence.

Protecting children in situations of armed conflict

117. We reaffirm our commitment to promote and protect the rights and welfare of children in armed conflicts. We welcome the significant advances and innovations that have been achieved over the past several years. We welcome in particular the adoption of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005. We call upon States to consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child³⁶ and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.³⁷ We also call upon States to take effective measures, as appropriate, to prevent the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, contrary to international law, by armed forces and groups, and to prohibit and criminalize such practices.

118. We therefore call upon all States concerned to take concrete measures to ensure accountability and compliance by those responsible for grave abuses against children. We also reaffirm our commitment to ensure that children in armed conflicts receive timely and effective humanitarian assistance, including education, for their rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

IV. Human rights and the rule of law

119. We recommit ourselves to actively protecting and promoting all human rights, the rule of law and democracy and recognize that they are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations, and call upon all parts of the United Nations to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with their mandates.

120. We reaffirm the solemn commitment of our States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for and the observance and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights³⁸ and other instruments relating to human rights and international law. The universal nature of these rights and freedoms is beyond question.

Human rights

121. We reaffirm that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis. While the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, all States, regardless of their

³⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

³⁷ Resolution 54/263, annex I.

³⁸ Resolution 217 A (III).

political, economic and cultural systems, have the duty to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

122. We emphasize the responsibilities of all States, in conformity with the Charter, to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind as to race, colour, sex, language or religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

123. We resolve further to strengthen the United Nations human rights machinery with the aim of ensuring effective enjoyment by all of all human rights and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.

124. We resolve to strengthen the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, taking note of the High Commissioner's plan of action, to enable it to effectively carry out its mandate to respond to the broad range of human rights challenges facing the international community, particularly in the areas of technical assistance and capacity-building, through the doubling of its regular budget resources over the next five years with a view to progressively setting a balance between regular budget and voluntary contributions to its resources, keeping in mind other priority programmes for developing countries and the recruitment of highly competent staff on a broad geographical basis and with gender balance, under the regular budget, and we support its closer cooperation with all relevant United Nations bodies, including the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council.

125. We resolve to improve the effectiveness of the human rights treaty bodies, including through more timely reporting, improved and streamlined reporting procedures and technical assistance to States to enhance their reporting capacities and further enhance the implementation of their recommendations.

126. We resolve to integrate the promotion and protection of human rights into national policies and to support the further mainstreaming of human rights throughout the United Nations system, as well as closer cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and all relevant United Nations bodies.

127. We reaffirm our commitment to continue making progress in the advancement of the human rights of the world's indigenous peoples at the local, national, regional and international levels, including through consultation and collaboration with them, and to present for adoption a final draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples as soon as possible.

128. We recognize the need to pay special attention to the human rights of women and children and undertake to advance them in every possible way, including by bringing gender and child-protection perspectives into the human rights agenda.

129. We recognize the need for persons with disabilities to be guaranteed full enjoyment of their rights without discrimination. We also affirm the need to finalize a comprehensive draft convention on the rights of persons with disabilities.

130. We note that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural diversity and heritage of society.

131. We support the promotion of human rights education and learning at all levels, including through the implementation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, as appropriate, and encourage all States to develop initiatives in this regard.

Internally displaced persons

132. We recognize the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement³⁹ as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons and resolve to take effective measures to increase the protection of internally displaced persons.

Refugee protection and assistance

133. We commit ourselves to safeguarding the principle of refugee protection and to upholding our responsibility in resolving the plight of refugees, including through the support of efforts aimed at addressing the causes of refugee movement, bringing about the safe and sustainable return of those populations, finding durable solutions for refugees in protracted situations and preventing refugee movement from becoming a source of tension among States. We reaffirm the principle of solidarity and burden-sharing and resolve to support nations in assisting refugee populations and their host communities.

Rule of law

134. Recognizing the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels, we:

(a) Reaffirm our commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to an international order based on the rule of law and international law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States;

(b) Support the annual treaty event;

(c) Encourage States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to all treaties that relate to the protection of civilians;

(d) Call upon States to continue their efforts to eradicate policies and practices that discriminate against women and to adopt laws and promote practices that protect the rights of women and promote gender equality;

(e) Support the idea of establishing a rule of law assistance unit within the Secretariat, in accordance with existing relevant procedures, subject to a report by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, so as to strengthen United Nations activities to promote the rule of law, including through technical assistance and capacity-building;

(f) Recognize the important role of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States and the value of its work, call upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the Court in accordance with its Statute and consider means of strengthening the Court's work, including by supporting the Secretary-General's Trust Fund to Assist States in the Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of Justice on a voluntary basis.

³⁹ E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

Democracy

135. We reaffirm that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives. We also reaffirm that while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy, that it does not belong to any country or region, and reaffirm the necessity of due respect for sovereignty and the right of self-determination. We stress that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

136. We renew our commitment to support democracy by strengthening countries' capacity to implement the principles and practices of democracy and resolve to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to assist Member States upon their request. We welcome the establishment of a Democracy Fund at the United Nations. We note that the advisory board to be established should reflect diverse geographical representation. We invite the Secretary-General to help to ensure that practical arrangements for the Democracy Fund take proper account of existing United Nations activity in this field.

137. We invite interested Member States to give serious consideration to contributing to the Fund.

Responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity

138. Each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means. We accept that responsibility and will act in accordance with it. The international community should, as appropriate, encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility and support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability.

139. The international community, through the United Nations, also has the responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means, in accordance with Chapters VI and VIII of the Charter, to help to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. In this context, we are prepared to take collective action, in a timely and decisive manner, through the Security Council, in accordance with the Charter, including Chapter VII, on a case-by-case basis and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations as appropriate, should peaceful means be inadequate and national authorities are manifestly failing to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. We stress the need for the General Assembly to continue consideration of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and its implications, bearing in mind the principles of the Charter and international law. We also intend to commit ourselves, as necessary and appropriate, to helping States build capacity to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and to assisting those which are under stress before crises and conflicts break out.

140. We fully support the mission of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide.

Children's rights

141. We express dismay at the increasing number of children involved in and affected by armed conflict, as well as all other forms of violence, including domestic violence, sexual abuse and exploitation and trafficking. We support cooperation policies aimed at strengthening national capacities to improve the situation of those children and to assist in their rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

142. We commit ourselves to respecting and ensuring the rights of each child without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status of the child or his or her parent(s) or legal guardian(s). We call upon States to consider as a priority becoming a party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.³⁶

Human security

143. We stress the right of people to live in freedom and dignity, free from poverty and despair. We recognize that all individuals, in particular vulnerable people, are entitled to freedom from fear and freedom from want, with an equal opportunity to enjoy all their rights and fully develop their human potential. To this end, we commit ourselves to discussing and defining the notion of human security in the General Assembly.

Culture of peace and initiatives on dialogue among cultures, civilizations and religions

144. We reaffirm the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace⁴⁰ as well as the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations and its Programme of Action⁴¹ adopted by the General Assembly and the value of different initiatives on dialogue among cultures and civilizations, including the dialogue on interfaith cooperation. We commit ourselves to taking action to promote a culture of peace and dialogue at the local, national, regional and international levels and request the Secretary-General to explore enhancing implementation mechanisms and to follow up on those initiatives. In this regard, we also welcome the Alliance of Civilizations initiative announced by the Secretary-General on 14 July 2005.

145. We underline that sports can foster peace and development and can contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding, and we encourage discussions in the General Assembly for proposals leading to a plan of action on sport and development.

V. Strengthening the United Nations

146. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen the United Nations with a view to enhancing its authority and efficiency, as well as its capacity to address effectively, and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the full range of challenges of our time. We are determined to reinvigorate the intergovernmental organs of the United Nations and to adapt them to the needs of the twenty-first century.

⁴⁰ Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

⁴¹ See resolution 56/6.

147. We stress that, in order to efficiently perform their respective mandates as provided under the Charter, United Nations bodies should develop good cooperation and coordination in the common endeavour of building a more effective United Nations.

148. We emphasize the need to provide the United Nations with adequate and timely resources with a view to enabling it to carry out its mandates. A reformed United Nations must be responsive to the entire membership, faithful to its founding principles and adapted to carrying out its mandate.

General Assembly

149. We reaffirm the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law.

150. We welcome the measures adopted by the General Assembly with a view to strengthening its role and authority and the role and leadership of the President of the Assembly and, to that end, we call for their full and speedy implementation.

151. We call for strengthening the relationship between the General Assembly and the other principal organs to ensure better coordination on topical issues that require coordinated action by the United Nations, in accordance with their respective mandates.

Security Council

152. We reaffirm that Member States have conferred on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, acting on their behalf, as provided for by the Charter.

153. We support early reform of the Security Council - an essential element of our overall effort to reform the United Nations - in order to make it more broadly representative, efficient and transparent and thus to further enhance its effectiveness and the legitimacy and implementation of its decisions. We commit ourselves to continuing our efforts to achieve a decision to this end and request the General Assembly to review progress on the reform set out above by the end of 2005.

154. We recommend that the Security Council continue to adapt its working methods so as to increase the involvement of States not members of the Council in its work, as appropriate, enhance its accountability to the membership and increase the transparency of its work.

Economic and Social Council

155. We reaffirm the role that the Charter and the General Assembly have vested in the Economic and Social Council and recognize the need for a more effective Economic and Social Council as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development, as well as for implementation of the international development goals agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals. To achieve these objectives, the Council should:

(a) Promote global dialogue and partnership on global policies and trends in the economic, social, environmental and humanitarian fields. For this purpose, the Council should serve as a quality platform for high-level engagement among

Member States and with the international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society on emerging global trends, policies and action and develop its ability to respond better and more rapidly to developments in the international economic, environmental and social fields;

(b) Hold a biennial high-level Development Cooperation Forum to review trends in international development cooperation, including strategies, policies and financing, promote greater coherence among the development activities of different development partners and strengthen the links between the normative and operational work of the United Nations;

(c) Ensure follow-up of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the internationally agreed development goals, and hold annual ministerial-level substantive reviews to assess progress, drawing on its functional and regional commissions and other international institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates;

(d) Support and complement international efforts aimed at addressing humanitarian emergencies, including natural disasters, in order to promote an improved, coordinated response from the United Nations;

(e) Play a major role in the overall coordination of funds, programmes and agencies, ensuring coherence among them and avoiding duplication of mandates and activities.

156. We stress that in order to fully perform the above functions, the organization of work, the agenda and the current methods of work of the Economic and Social Council should be adapted.

Human Rights Council

157. Pursuant to our commitment to further strengthen the United Nations human rights machinery, we resolve to create a Human Rights Council.

158. The Council will be responsible for promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner.

159. The Council should address situations of violations of human rights, including gross and systematic violations, and make recommendations thereon. It should also promote effective coordination and the mainstreaming of human rights within the United Nations system.

160. We request the President of the General Assembly to conduct open, transparent and inclusive negotiations, to be completed as soon as possible during the sixtieth session, with the aim of establishing the mandate, modalities, functions, size, composition, membership, working methods and procedures of the Council.

Secretariat and management reform

161. We recognize that in order to effectively comply with the principles and objectives of the Charter, we need an efficient, effective and accountable Secretariat. Its staff shall act in accordance with Article 100 of the Charter, in a culture of organizational accountability, transparency and integrity. Consequently we:

(a) Recognize the ongoing reform measures carried out by the Secretary-General to strengthen accountability and oversight, improve management

performance and transparency and reinforce ethical conduct, and invite him to report to the General Assembly on the progress made in their implementation;

(b) Emphasize the importance of establishing effective and efficient mechanisms for responsibility and accountability of the Secretariat;

(c) Urge the Secretary-General to ensure that the highest standards of efficiency, competence, and integrity shall be the paramount consideration in the employment of the staff, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter;

(d) Welcome the Secretary-General's efforts to ensure ethical conduct, more extensive financial disclosure for United Nations officials and enhanced protection for those who reveal wrongdoing within the Organization. We urge the Secretary-General to scrupulously apply the existing standards of conduct and develop a system-wide code of ethics for all United Nations personnel. In this regard, we request the Secretary-General to submit details on an ethics office with independent status, which he intends to create, to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

(e) Pledge to provide the United Nations with adequate resources, on a timely basis, to enable the Organization to implement its mandates and achieve its objectives, having regard to the priorities agreed by the General Assembly and the need to respect budget discipline. We stress that all Member States should meet their obligations with regard to the expenses of the Organization;

(f) Strongly urge the Secretary-General to make the best and most efficient use of resources in accordance with clear rules and procedures agreed by the General Assembly, in the interest of all Member States, by adopting the best management practices, including effective use of information and communication technologies, with a view to increasing efficiency and enhancing organizational capacity, concentrating on those tasks that reflect the agreed priorities of the Organization.

162. We reaffirm the role of the Secretary-General as the chief administrative officer of the Organization, in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter. We request the Secretary-General to make proposals to the General Assembly for its consideration on the conditions and measures necessary for him to carry out his managerial responsibilities effectively.

163. We commend the Secretary-General's previous and ongoing efforts to enhance the effective management of the United Nations and his commitment to update the Organization. Bearing in mind our responsibility as Member States, we emphasize the need to decide on additional reforms in order to make more efficient use of the financial and human resources available to the Organization and thus better comply with its principles, objectives and mandates. We call on the Secretary-General to submit proposals for implementing management reforms to the General Assembly for consideration and decision in the first quarter of 2006, which will include the following elements:

(a) We will ensure that the United Nations budgetary, financial and human resource policies, regulations and rules respond to the current needs of the Organization and enable the efficient and effective conduct of its work, and request the Secretary-General to provide an assessment and recommendations to the General Assembly for decision during the first quarter of 2006. The assessment and recommendations of the Secretary-General should take account of the measures already under way for the reform of human resources management and the budget process;

(b) We resolve to strengthen and update the programme of work of the United Nations so that it responds to the contemporary requirements of Member States. To this end, the General Assembly and other relevant organs will review all mandates older than five years originating from resolutions of the General Assembly and other organs, which would be complementary to the existing periodic reviews of activities. The General Assembly and the other organs should complete and take the necessary decisions arising from this review during 2006. We request the Secretary-General to facilitate this review with analysis and recommendations, including on the opportunities for programmatic shifts that could be considered for early General Assembly consideration;

(c) A detailed proposal on the framework for a one-time staff buyout to improve personnel structure and quality, including an indication of costs involved and mechanisms to ensure that it achieves its intended purpose.

164. We recognize the urgent need to substantially improve the United Nations oversight and management processes. We emphasize the importance of ensuring the operational independence of the Office of Internal Oversight Services. Therefore:

(a) The expertise, capacity and resources of the Office of Internal Oversight Services in respect of audit and investigations will be significantly strengthened as a matter of urgency;

(b) We request the Secretary-General to submit an independent external evaluation of the auditing and oversight system of the United Nations, including the specialized agencies, including the roles and responsibilities of management, with due regard to the nature of the auditing and oversight bodies in question. This evaluation will take place within the context of the comprehensive review of the governance arrangements. We ask the General Assembly to adopt measures during its sixtieth session at the earliest possible stage, based on the consideration of recommendations of the evaluation and those made by the Secretary-General;

(c) We recognize that additional measures are needed to enhance the independence of the oversight structures. We therefore request the Secretary-General to submit detailed proposals to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session for its early consideration on the creation of an independent oversight advisory committee, including its mandate, composition, selection process and qualification of experts;

(d) We authorize the Office of Internal Oversight Services to examine the feasibility of expanding its services to provide internal oversight to United Nations agencies that request such services in such a way as to ensure that the provision of internal oversight services to the Secretariat will not be compromised.

165. We insist on the highest standards of behaviour from all United Nations personnel and support the considerable efforts under way with respect to the implementation of the Secretary-General's policy of zero tolerance regarding sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations personnel, both at Headquarters and in the field. We encourage the Secretary-General to submit proposals to the General Assembly leading to a comprehensive approach to victims' assistance by 31 December 2005.

166. We encourage the Secretary-General and all decision-making bodies to take further steps in mainstreaming a gender perspective in the policies and decisions of the Organization.

167. We strongly condemn all attacks against the safety and security of personnel engaged in United Nations activities. We call upon States to consider becoming parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel⁴² and stress the need to conclude negotiations on a protocol expanding the scope of legal protection during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly.

System-wide coherence

168. We recognize that the United Nations brings together a unique wealth of expertise and resources on global issues. We commend the extensive experience and expertise of the various development-related organizations, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system in their diverse and complementary fields of activity and their important contributions to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the other development objectives established by various United Nations conferences.

169. We support stronger system-wide coherence by implementing the following measures:

Policy

- Strengthening linkages between the normative work of the United Nations system and its operational activities
- Coordinating our representation on the governing boards of the various development and humanitarian agencies so as to ensure that they pursue a coherent policy in assigning mandates and allocating resources throughout the system
- Ensuring that the main horizontal policy themes, such as sustainable development, human rights and gender, are taken into account in decision-making throughout the United Nations

Operational activities

- Implementing current reforms aimed at a more effective, efficient, coherent, coordinated and better-performing United Nations country presence with a strengthened role for the senior resident official, whether special representative, resident coordinator or humanitarian coordinator, including appropriate authority, resources and accountability, and a common management, programming and monitoring framework
- Inviting the Secretary-General to launch work to further strengthen the management and coordination of United Nations operational activities so that they can make an even more effective contribution to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, including proposals for consideration by Member States for more tightly managed entities in the fields of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment

⁴² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

Humanitarian assistance

- Upholding and respecting the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence and ensuring that humanitarian actors have safe and unhindered access to populations in need in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws
- Supporting the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact
- Strengthening the effectiveness of the United Nations humanitarian response, inter alia, by improving the timeliness and predictability of humanitarian funding, in part by improving the Central Emergency Revolving Fund
- Further developing and improving, as required, mechanisms for the use of emergency standby capacities, under the auspices of the United Nations, for a timely response to humanitarian emergencies

Environmental activities

- Recognizing the need for more efficient environmental activities in the United Nations system, with enhanced coordination, improved policy advice and guidance, strengthened scientific knowledge, assessment and cooperation, better treaty compliance, while respecting the legal autonomy of the treaties, and better integration of environmental activities in the broader sustainable development framework at the operational level, including through capacity-building, we agree to explore the possibility of a more coherent institutional framework to address this need, including a more integrated structure, building on existing institutions and internationally agreed instruments, as well as the treaty bodies and the specialized agencies

Regional organizations

170. We support a stronger relationship between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, pursuant to Chapter VIII of the Charter, and therefore resolve:

(a) To expand consultation and cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations through formalized agreements between the respective secretariats and, as appropriate, involvement of regional organizations in the work of the Security Council;

(b) To ensure that regional organizations that have a capacity for the prevention of armed conflict or peacekeeping consider the option of placing such capacity in the framework of the United Nations Standby Arrangements System;

(c) To strengthen cooperation in the economic, social and cultural fields.

Cooperation between the United Nations and parliaments

171. We call for strengthened cooperation between the United Nations and national and regional parliaments, in particular through the Inter-Parliamentary Union, with a view to furthering all aspects of the Millennium Declaration in all fields of the work of the United Nations and ensuring the effective implementation of United Nations reform.

Participation of local authorities, the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations

172. We welcome the positive contributions of the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion and implementation of development and human rights programmes and stress the importance of their continued engagement with Governments, the United Nations and other international organizations in these key areas.

173. We welcome the dialogue between those organizations and Member States, as reflected in the first informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector.

174. We underline the important role of local authorities in contributing to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

175. We encourage responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact.

Charter of the United Nations

176. Considering that the Trusteeship Council no longer meets and has no remaining functions, we should delete Chapter XIII of the Charter and references to the Council in Chapter XII.

177. Taking into account General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995 and recalling the related discussions conducted in the General Assembly, bearing in mind the profound cause for the founding of the United Nations and looking to our common future, we resolve to delete references to “enemy States” in Articles 53, 77 and 107 of the Charter.

178. We request the Security Council to consider the composition, mandate and working methods of the Military Staff Committee.

*8th plenary meeting
16 September 2005*